



Classical and flamenco guitarist Silviu Octavian Ciulei was born in Constanta, Romania. He began his musical studies at the early age of six and attended the High School of Arts, a Conservatory style school in Constanta. By age thirteen, he had won his first performance prize. Many awards soon followed including First Prizes in the National Music Olympics, and was First Prize winner and Gold Medalist three times consecutively in the “George Georgescu” International Music Performance Competition.

He graduated at the top of his class and was selected to perform a Concerto with the Black Sea National Philharmonic Orchestra. Silviu is also an acclaimed flamenco guitarist. He traveled to the south of Spain to study flamenco guitar and lived in Cadiz, Madrid and Seville. Some of his flamenco mentors include Adam del Monte, Ricardo Nunez, and Oscar Guzman. He has performed with his flamenco quintet Tequila Flamenco Group at the Guitar Foundation of America International Festival at Oberlin Conservatory, headlined the Eastfield Guitar Festival in Dallas, TX and appeared live on numerous occasions on National Public Radio and TV. Recent engagements with his flamenco project, Maharajah Flamenco Trio, include an array of performances at many festivals such as the Southern Guitar Festival, the Eastern Shore Guitar Festival, Florida Folk Festival, Radford Guitar Festival and a tour of the eastern coast of the United States from Florida to New York. Silviu has also appeared as soloist with the Black Sea National Philharmonic, Nashville, Allentown, Tallahassee, Hendersonville symphony orchestras, to mention some of the more recent concerto performances.