

Ulrika explains Conversation: "The most important ingredient in flamenco is ignited by that special connection when everybody involved, dancers, singers, musicians, and aficionados, feel they are like one unit on stage. Some call it 'duende', I call it conversation, where you in various ways express yourself and, above all, listen. To be able to have a conversation with your fellow flamencos, and wish for a llamada here, an escobilla there, and e.g. reply with a remate within the letra, you need as a dancer both theoretical as well as practical knowledge. This is what my Conversation classes are all about; how you can learn the ability to 'converse', express, listen, act, and react while you are dancing, differently depending on what music you are listening to, live or recorded. To feel, in the middle of a "flamenco conversation", that you are able to lead and follow is a wonderful feeling! By knowing the basic structure of the choreography, the singer's verses, the music, and of course the technique, you learn how to dance with self confidence. The goal, which requires a long journey of hard studying, is to be able to dance your choreography to any singer, guitarist or other musicians."

**Note!** I would like to give all credit for naming one of my workshops Conversation, to my dear friend and colleague flamenco guitarist / singer Marija Temo, who has been teaching Flamenco Communication for several years. We taught the same theme, but from different angles, the importance of mutual understanding in between flamenco performers. Marija started to call these classes Communication long time ago. I had never thought of giving my classes and my certain way of teaching a name until now. So, thank you, Marija, for being my friend and inspiration.