

= Amor Gitano =

" Amor Gitano " ( English : " Gypsy Love " ) is a latin pop duet by Mexican recording artist Alejandro Fernández and American recording artist Beyoncé . The song contains a mixture of cultures , mostly influenced by the exotic language of Fernández , that is Spanish , and Beyoncé 's pop and R & B influences . Along with Jaime Flores and Reyli Barba , Beyoncé wrote the song , while Rudy Pérez and Beyoncé herself produced the song . " Amor Gitano " serves as the theme song of the telenovela El Zorro and it was released on February 12 , 2007 during the premiere of the episode of the telenovela .

" Amor Gitano " generally received positive reception from music critics . While some of them complimented the vocal exchanges between both artists and the flamenco pop genre of the song , others criticized the song for being somehow offensive due to the stereotypical lyrics . Although it failed to make any impact on the main US Billboard Hot 100 chart , it charted on a few Billboard component charts , peaking at number twenty @-@ three on the US Latin Pop Songs chart . Achieving multi @-@ platinum certifications for ringtones and digital downloads in Spain , the song remained at the top of the Spanish Singles charts for thirteen weeks , becoming Beyoncé 's second Spanish chart @-@ topping single , the first being " Beautiful Liar " ( 2007 ) . " Amor Gitano " is ranked at number one on the list of best @-@ selling singles in Spain .

= = Background and recording = =

" Amor Gitano " originated from the collaboration of Sony BMG 's biggest talents and greatest assets . Kevin Lawrie , President of Sony BMG Latin America , contacted the Sony Entertainment Television Latin America as well as the producers of El Zorro to come up with a theme song for the telenovela . At the same time , Beyoncé and Fernandez were in the process of selecting material for their respective upcoming projects . Paul Forat , the Vice President of the Artists and repertoire division of Sony Entertainment Television Latin America , first heard the song from Reyli Barba and felt it could be perfect for Fernandez . Lawrie later contacted Mathew Knowles , President and CEO Music World Entertainment , about Beyoncé 's Spanish material , and the duet song was recorded partly at The Beach House Recording Studios in Miami Beach , Florida and at the Rock the Mic Studios in New York in mid January 2007 , with Rudy Perez .

In an interview with Billboard magazine , Beyoncé discussed how excited she was about the collaboration stating , " I loved working with Alejandro on ' Amor Gitano . ' When I was asked to record with him , I immediately said ' yes . ' He is extremely talented . " Alejandro Fernández stated that as the production and recording of his album was nearly over , he was told that Beyoncé wanted to record a duet with a Latino male for her next album . He stated : " So when they suggested it , I liked the idea . I thought it was spectacular . So we went , I gave her the song and she liked it [ ... ] We recorded it in one day . She seemed like a fine lady to me , very humble , with a great voice . "

According to Beyoncé 's publicity material , she grew up in a Texas area where Spanish was a popular language and heard it all the time . She studied the language as a child but forgot it as she grew up and rose to fame . Beyoncé was planning to take Spanish lessons because she had learn the language again and then the song by imitating the sounds . She stated : " I had the best coach ; I did it phonetically , every sentence I recorded maybe four times . " A " Making of ... " video was created while Beyoncé was recording the song with Fernández . While creating the song , Beyoncé had producer Rudy Perez coach her in her Spanish , as she did not want to misrepresent the language .

= = Music and theme = =

The song was written by Reyli Barba , formerly of the band Elefante , who has worked with Fernández on multiple occasions . Additional writing was done by Jaime Flores and Beyoncé . " Amor Gitano " was produced by Beyoncé as well as Rudy Perez . Labelled as inappropriate for

those under the age of 14 , the song features negative stereotyping of Romani or Gypsy people . The entire song is sung in Spanish ; the English translation of the title is " Gypsy Love " .

The song contains hints of flamenco pop and strong lyrics dominate the entire track . After opening with " traditional flamenco sounds and generic Gypsy Kings @-@ style guitarra riffs " , " Amor Gitano " adds hints of pop music . As the song progresses , it transcends into a ballad , demonstrating romance , excitement and extreme emotions . " Amor Gitano " is completely dominated by flamenco guitars which is interlaced with alternating vocals . With what has been described as a " thrilling blend of the stars " by James P. Steyer of Common Sense Media , both Beyoncé and Fernández exchange " heated declaration of love and passion . " Lyrically the song contains a broader , melodramatic concept of love with Beyoncé and Fernández exchanging words between verses , for instance in one part , Fernández sings " I 'm your gypsy , your pilgrimage " and Beyoncé replies " I 'm your thief , I 'm going to love you even if they tear my heart out . "

= = Release and reception = =

" Amor Gitano " debuted on February 12 , 2007 on the premiere episode of Telemundo 's El Zorro novella . The song was the first included on Beyoncé 's third studio album B 'Day , where it was included on the second disc of the albums deluxe edition which included an additional six Spanish @-@ language tracks . The song was released as a bonus track on all European releases of the original B 'Day albums . " Amor Gitano " also serves as the opening track of Beyoncé 's EP Irreemplazable . " Amor Gitano " was also included on Fernández 's twelfth studio album Viento a favor ( 2007 ) . The promo shoots of the album Viento a favor highlighted the collaboration between Fernández and Beyoncé .

= = = Critical reception = = =

The song garnered generally mixed to positive reception from music critics , most of whom noted that the song may be taken offensively because of its stereotypical lyrics . The song has been described as a " plaintive ballad " by Joseph Woodard of Entertainment Weekly . San Francisco @-@ based non @-@ profit organization , Common Sense Media gave the song a mixed review , stating that it should remain an album track rather than a single . They stated , " With Beyoncé doing a pretty good job of phonetically singing in Spanish ( the occasional verb phrase doesn 't blend ) , this is more about novelty than about being a great single . " Agustín Gurza of the Los Angeles Times gave the song a positive review , naming it a stand @-@ out track off of Alejandro 's Viento a favor . Jason Birchmeier of Allmusic complimented the writing as well as the production on the song and called it " over @-@ bearing in a positive way . " As a positive spoof of the song 's premiere on Zorro : La Espada y la Rosa , Billboard created a wanted poster for Fernández , which stated he was wanted " for stealing the hearts of millions " with his performance in the song .

= = = Chart performance = = =

" Amor Gitano " mainly sold in markets with a Latin demographic . It failed to make any impact on the main US Billboard Hot 100 . However , the single charted on the US Latin Pop Songs chart , and peaked at number twenty @-@ three . " Amor Gitano " was more successful on Spanish charts . The song peaked at number one on both the Spanish Singles and Download charts . It remained at the summit of the singles chart for thirteen weeks from May 28 , 2007 to August 27 , 2007 , until later replaced by " Lamento Boliviano " by Dani Mata . " Amor Gitano " is also Beyoncé 's second number @-@ one hit on the Spanish Download Chart ( the first was " Beautiful Liar " ) as well as her first Spanish @-@ language number @-@ one hit . The song was certified eight @-@ times platinum ( 160 @,@ 000 copies ) for downloads and sixteen @-@ times platinum ( 320 @,@ 000 copies ) for ringtone sales by the Productores de Música de España ( PROMUSICAE ) . It is ranked at number one on the list of best @-@ selling singles in Spain .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Adapted from the B 'Day 's liner notes .

= = Charts and certification = =