This book is Moore’s annotated translation of one of José Luis Ortiz Nuevo’s classic collections of oral history by the famed flamenco singer and story-teller, Pericón de Cádiz. Out of print since the 1970s, the Spanish version was reprinted in 2008, when it won DeFlamenco.com’s award for best book on flamenco. This collection of witty stories takes the reader to the streets of Cádiz during the early 20th century, where it chronicles the gracia, fiestas, hunger, and terror of a period that spanned the end of Alfonso XIII’s reign, the Second Republic, the Spanish Civil War, and the Franco dictatorship - all through the eyes of a street-wise, but virtually illiterate, flamenco singer. The stories were collected and arranged by José Luis Ortiz Nuevo – then a young political science student in Madrid, now a well-known author of numerous works on flamenco.

As a linguist, John Moore has specialized in syntactic theory, particularly as it pertains to Spanish. He has also played flamenco guitar professionally for over 40 years. For the past six years, he has participated in UCSD’s Global Seminar Program, taking students to Cádiz for courses on Spanish dialectology and the culture and history of flamenco.