



P R E S E N T S

# Luna de Mayo



# Luna de Mayo

From Spain, through America, to the UK. **Luna de Mayo** is one of the finest World Music groups based in Britain, conveying with their voices the pride of their roots and a sense of future.



In their ten year career as folk musicians, Mariano Otheguy and Sergio Camacho have extensively toured around the world with their award winning Spanish ensemble. In their way through more than forty countries, they have compiled hundreds of songs to add to a wide repertoire, which includes tunes of every Spanish speaking country, as well as original material.

Now, with the genuine flavour of local folk and jazz performers, they present the very best of Latin and Spanish rhythms with their unique accent.

Cuba, Argentina, Chile, Perú. And Spain. Lute, cuatro, clave and drum. And guitars. This is **Luna de Mayo**...a world of musics in two voices.



*Luna de Mayo performing at the Caedmon Hall, Gateshead. June 2007.*

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## company background

*Luna de Mayo* is the expression of two complementary talents onto one single stage; award-winning composer Sergio Camacho and multifaceted musician Mariano Otheguy. They started their musical careers in the folk music arena of Madrid, Spain, sharing the lead of different ensembles with which they settled their reputation as two of the more promising voices of the Spanish and Latin folk scene. In his quest for a point of balance between innovation and tradition, Sergio took one step which would shape his future career; he moved to Newcastle upon Tyne to pursue a PhD degree in composition. This step opened his mind to a totally new world of sounds and musics. The way to tradition was through innovation.



*Luna de Mayo performing at the SAGE Gateshead. February 2008*

Since then, his music career has started to boost. Settled as one of the most distinctive voices of a new generation of composers, his music has been performed by top artists as the Northern Sinfonia, Tim Garland, from Chick Corea's ensemble, and McFalls Chamber Orchestra, among others. His first opera "Three Word Poem About Loss", words and music by Sergio Camacho, was premiered at the SAGE Gateshead. The show "Olvido, a desperate call for oblivion" started the collaboration between Teatro de Nieve production company and Luna de Mayo, and led to the film "The Equivocal Mirror", directed by Luis Ortega, which was premiered as a stage show, with live music, in February 2008, in their second consecutive sold-out performance at the SAGE Gateshead.

Mariano Otheguy's career was the logical result of a natural talent. His unique voice, defined as "warm beauty" by the UPM Young Folk Musician Award panel, and his virtuosity on the Spanish lute opened the doors to some of the best stages around the world in the folk circuit. Japan, Iceland, Ecuador. And then, the North East of England. A phone call from Sergio, a new professional path. Luna de Mayo was born.



*"Rhythm, subtlety and passion. This is Luna de Mayo"*

Since then Luna de Mayo has quickly become one of the references of World Music in the North East. In collaboration with UK artists they have developed a sound that combines the warmth and beat of Spanish and Latin-American rhythms with the raw beauty of British folk. Lute, cuatro. With whistle and fiddle. Original material rooted in three different soils. This is Innovation. And tradition.

Colour, texture, rhythm, subtlety and passion embroidering notes. Latin Folk, and Fusion. This is *Luna de Mayo*.

## permanent members of the company

Musical director and composer:	Sergio Camacho
Artistic director and advisor:	Mariano Otheguy
Stage director and producer:	Luis Ortega
Administrator:	Caroline Harrop

## contact us

### availability, fees and further information

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### press and media interviews

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*"Olvido, a desperate call for Oblivion", The Caedmon Hall, Gateshead. June 2007.*

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# marketing details

## What is the style of music?

An innovative approach to Spanish and Latin American folk music, with influences of English and Irish folk and contemporary orchestral music. Latin Folk and Fusion.

## What does 'Luna de Mayo' mean?

It means "May Moon", in Spanish, and was extracted from Camacho's poem and song "Full Moon of May"

## What languages are used in the performance?

The performance is conceived for an international audience; songs are in Spanish, voices in English. No previous knowledge in Spanish is needed to fully understand the performance. The meaning of the songs is fully conveyed through action, words, multimedia and dance presenting an unique environment of multilingual communication.

## What is the "modular structure" of the show?

As a valuable add-on to the performance, each show is organised in modules or sets that gives flexibility to adapt the show to the venue and audience.

## What shows are available?

Thanks to their vast repertoire, Luna de Mayo have available the shows "Lunático", "Olvido, a desperate call for oblivion", "The Equivocal Mirror", and "The Call of the Motherland", with a flexible line-up from 2 to 5 performers and up to 2 dancers. Tailor made or thematic performances, on specific countries, or musics, are also available.

## How long is the show?

As a part of its modular structure, the performance has one to three sets of 45 minutes each, with the possibility of an interval.



*Premiere of "The Equivocal Mirror" at the Sage Gateshead, February 2008*

### **Is there an age limit on this show?**

No. It will engage all different audiences that enjoy music in general, and Spanish and Latin folk in particular.

### **Main selling points for *Luna de Mayo***

- World Music of the highest standard
- Spanish and Latin American folk music and dance
- Original material, combining Spanish and British sounds
- Innovation, tradition.
- A show full of poetry, passion and warmth.
- Integration and multicultural exchange.
- Composed, directed and performed by a new generation of artists.

### **Educational side, community work and audience development**

*Luna de Mayo* is committed to education and community work. Alongside the performances, we will provide an education programme to be developed in conjunction with the local authorities, schools and community and artistic local organisations. A set of workshops in Spanish music and culture, visual art, Latin music, dance and composition are available to be delivered by our teacher trained performers.

Pre-concert talks, showcases and recitals can be as well arranged. Especially welcome has been our programme of integrating local artists (local musicians, child-actors, dancers, or visual artists) into the performances. Details will be provided upon request.



*Camacho, Otheguy – Luna de Mayo*

# list of shows

## Luna de Mayo, "Lunático" tour

- Line-up 5 performers.
- Length 1-2 modules of 45 minutes each
- Instruments voice, lute, cuatro, guitar, fiddle, whistle, d.bass. percussion

Original material, present in their CD "Lunático"



## Luna de Mayo, "The Equivocal Mirror"

- Line-up 5 performers.
- Length 1-2 modules of 30 minutes each
- Instruments voice, lute, cuatro, guitar, fiddle, whistle, d.bass. percussion

Original music, acting as a live score for the film "The Equivocal Mirror"



## Luna de Mayo,

### "Olvido, a desperate call for oblivion"

- Line-up 3 to 5 performers. Two dancers
- Length 1 module of 1 hour
- Instruments voice, lute, cuatro, guitar, (+ fiddle, whistle, d.bass. percussion)

Original material, and versions on Latin-American folk standards, narrating a story about loss and redemption in a cabaret-style performance.



## Luna de Mayo,

### "The Call of the Motherland"

- Line-up 2 to 5 performers
- Length 1 to 3 modules of 45 minutes
- Instruments voice, lute, cuatro, guitar, (+ fiddle, whistle, d.bass. percussion)

Band style performance, with versions on Latin-American folk standards, and original material, organised as a trip through 10 different Spanish-speaking countries.







*Sergio Camacho's work is rooted in the powerful tradition that has evolved from the two-way exchanges between the Iberian peninsula and the Americas. Echoes of Mozarabic chant, strumming rumbles from the Venezuelan savannah, strains of sentimental boleros, atmospheric colours from Falla's palette, and, in the words, the rich poetic imagery of Lorca, Neruda and five hundred years of folk poetry hurled back and forth across the Atlantic. This talented young Spaniard is mixing a heady potion for us. He deserves to succeed.*

Dr Agustín Fernández  
International Centre for Music Studies, Newcastle Upon Tyne



*Luna de Mayo performing traditional cape dance at the SAGE Gateshead, Feb 2007*

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# what our audiences say

“This is Luna de Mayo; the roots of Spanish music in evolution”

**BBC Radio Newcastle**

“It’s a great show. Music and film show very deep feelings”

**Robin Haywood, about “The Equivocal...”**

“I have always loved Spanish music; but you made me dance it!”

**Katrina Ellis, about “The Call...”**

“Spanish voices conquer Reykjavík”

**Fréttablaðið news, Iceland.**

“Oh it has been incredible! You the Spanish people are so emotional! I couldn’t imagine it was going to be so intense! Really lovely music and dance”

**Sarah Yuin, about “Olvido...”**

“Luna de Mayo explores Spanish and Latin musical heritage from their very own approach. The combined work of two talents to develop a distinct sound.”

**VAMOS festival**

“Spanish passion never heard before in Beijing”

**That’s Beijing, China**

"Their music was very beautiful... a gripping and unique performance"

**Grainne Foster, about “Olvido...”**

“Really touching.”

**Peter McFarlane, about “Olvido...”**

“The film is moving but, to be honest, I couldn’t take my eyes off the band... they are fantastic!”

**Juan Diego Pérez-Albornoz, about “The Equivocal...”**

“Impressive talent in voices. I love the fusion with jazz, afrocuban rhythms and even Northumbrian folk!”

**David Bolton, about “The Call...”**



presents

# The Equivocal Mirror

a film by  
Sergio Camacho and Luis Ortega

## On the screen

María Martínez  
Mariano Otheguy  
Mary Flannery

Written and Directed by Luis Ortega

D.O.P. Matthew Edmondston

## On the stage

Music Composed and Conducted  
by Sergio Camacho

Arrangements Camacho and Otheguy

## *Luna de Mayo*

Voice, guitar, lute	Mariano Otheguy
Voice, cuatro	Sergio Camacho
Fiddle, whistles, clarinet	Michael Haywood
Percussion	Matthew Ross
Double Bass, voice	Mick Danby

Stage Manager Caroline Harrop

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## luna de mayo are

### **Sergio Camacho.**

Born in Madrid, Spain, Sergio Camacho defines himself as a creator in the need of expression. His first steps in art made him a promising writer, who found in music a closer way to transmit his feelings. He started his music career as a folk musician, touring around more than 40 countries with his Spanish ensemble, and soon he found in composition an unexplored and challenging path to unlock his feelings. Graduated in Music in Spain, he studied composition with Anders Flodin at Örebro University, Sweden, and in 2003 moved to England for studying an MMus at the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne; Agustín Fernández being his supervisor and his source of continuous inspiration. Now, through a PhD at Newcastle University, he is focused in his project of the regeneration of Spanish Lyrical Theatre through new composition. *'Three Word Poem About Loss'*, where he acted both as composer and librettist, was his first staged opera. His first film *'The Equivocal Mirror'* has been recently premiered at the SAGE Gateshead. Sergio shares his work as a composer with his performances with Luna de Mayo. His music has been recently performed by top class artists like the Northern Sinfonia, McFalls Chamber Orchestra, William Lane and Tim Garland.



### **Mariano Otheguy.**

Multitalented personality, Mariano Otheguy brings to life the unique romance between his successful careers in Naval Engineering Research and as a singer and performer. Born in Buenos Aires, and coming from Spain, he was awarded by the UPM Best Folk Musician last year, having performed in Japan, New York, Moscow or Beijing, where he has enjoyed learning about the different cultures and musics of the world. He has played roles in Spanish Opera companies and theatre productions, such as 'Carmen Cantero Zarzuela Productions', 'Felix San Mateo Company' and the 'Compañía Lírica de Madrid'. He has directed different Spanish folk ensembles, being awarded for that in international festivals in Madrid, Eindhoven or Quito. In February 2008 he sang with the Northern Sinfonia in the première of Camacho's piece 'Savannah' at the SAGE Gateshead under the baton of H.K. Gruber.





Luna  
de Mayo

## contact us

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