

THE EQUIVOCAL



MIRROR

The Equivocal Mirror, *an original film*

by Teatro de Nieve
and Luna de Mayo

Two performances, one story. One Mirror, two sights.

Luna de Mayo, Latin and Fusion Band, and the production company *Teatro de Nieve*, both Newcastle based, present a set of two performances on the ambiguity of internal and external worlds. The two performances combine two original soundless films and original live music, interacting to create two independent but related stage shows.

Combining contemporary visual and music languages, Teatro de Nieve present a stage performance by composer Sergio Camacho on the original soundless film “**The Equivocal Mirror**”, directed by Luis Ortega. The film uncovers a story of hopes lost by the sea. The performers on stage are the bridge between the world in the screen and our physical reality.

On the second performance, *Luna de Mayo* will perform their own sight into the Equivocal Mirror, from their singular perspective. With their Spanish and Latin folk roots, and a panel of traditional and amplified instruments, they will establish a radically different dialogue between stage and screen, with their distinctive accent.

Two independent performances, about one single story. The life, through a mirror.



Shooting “The Equivocal Mirror” on location at Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear.



teatro de nieve

company background

Teatro de Nieve is the result of the creative partnership of two of the most talented artists of the North East; composer Sergio Camacho and award-winning stage director Luis Ortega. Both originals from Spain, both promising writers in their beginnings, their two creative careers diverted from the Spanish literary scene to converge years later in the effervescent artistic arena of Newcastle upon Tyne, Sergio Camacho settled as one of the more distinctive voices of a new generation of composers and Luis Ortega juggling his double professional career as a countertenor singer and stage director. The Opera “Three Word Poem About Loss”, words and music by Sergio Camacho, was their first common production, which summarized on a stage the characteristics that will be also projected into “The Equivocal Mirror”; Camacho’s poetic language translated into movement by Ortega. Colour, texture, rhythm, subtlety and passion embroidering notes, lights, voices and dance.

But they also have the qualities that single out success from talent; artistic personality, irresistible determination and the all too rare ability of collaborating with the very best of local artists starting with the acclaimed tenor and multifaceted artist Mariano Otheguy, the excellent administrator and superb stage manager Caroline Harrop and the more than twenty professionals involved in their projects in the creative and technical teams, singers, dancers and the *Selenia* orchestra. All of them are the stand which supports the unique talent of two names under three words. *Teatro de Nieve*.



Camacho & Ortega

permanent members of the company

Musical director, composer:	Sergio Camacho	sergio.camacho@teatrodenieve.com
Stage director, producer:	Luis Ortega	luis.ortega@teatrodenieve.com
Artistic advisor:	Mariano Otheguy	mariano.otheguy@teatrodenieve.com
Administrator:	Caroline Harrop	caroline.harrop@teatrodenieve.com

Luna de Mayo

From Spain, through America, to the UK. *Luna de Mayo* is one of the finest Latin Folk and Fusion groups in the UK, and has arrived to the North East with the intention of staying.



In their ten years 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.

That includes tunes of every Spanish speaking country, and is the core for their own songs. A complete set of original pieces that explore the interior worlds, feelings, the trip of life. Now, with the genuine flavour of the best local jazz and folk performers, they present the very best of Latin and Spanish rhythms. Their own story. Their unique accent.

Cuba, Argentina, Chile, Perú. And Spain. Lute, bongo, clave and drum. And guitars. Latin folk to listen, enjoy... and dance!



Camacho & Otheguy, at the Sage Gateshead, Feb 2007.



The Moon governs our movements. The body and the voice tell the story.

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



Dancers on both sides of the reality. The voyage of life on stage.

review

teatro de nieve in première of Sergio Camacho's 'Three Word Poem About Loss'

Caedmon Hall, Gateshead
9 June 2007

This was the latest offering from Sergio Camacho, a young Spaniard who, since his arrival four years ago, has been causing ripples on the Tyne with his many-sided hyperactivity.

How much jouleage can a human being generate? For all along, in amongst everything else, Camacho has been doing the real work of his life: he has been composing music. And writing the lyrics for it. (...) I got to attend the première on 9 June, which was, and sorry if the story seems to get a bit implausible,



"Three Word Poem..." at
The Sage Gateshead, February 2007.

only the second part of a two-nighter, something which had already been performed the previous night, but in a different form, in a folk-oriented incarnation involving yet another of Camacho's creatures, a group named *Luna de Mayo*. Having only finite time to follow this vertiginous career, I missed the first and attended the second, the opera *Three Word Poem About Loss*.



"Three Word Poem..." at
The Caedmon Hall, Gateshead, June 2007.

As soon as the show started, the impression was one of taut, serious-minded concentration. No ordinary effort here: Luis Ortega's thoughtful stage direction elicited committed performances from each of the actor-singers, providing an atmosphere of tense introspection throughout. The characters are The

Father, embodied in his corporal dimension by dancer Yuvel Soria and in his spiritual persona by baritone Simone Marchesini; the mother, represented as a body by dancer Rosa Stourac McCreedy and as a soul by soprano Teresa Magnowska, and the son, enacted as an adult by Mariano Otheguy and as an infant by Jacob Robson. Presiding over this trinity is The Moon, in the form of countertenor Luis Ortega providing a hauntingly characterised presence. To one side of the minimalist stage was the small orchestra, conducted by guess who. The whole outfit looked right, in size and nature, for the Caedmon Hall auditorium.

The production rode with surprising ease astride the language divide, thanks to the printed programme, providing every word of the sung text with English translations, thanks also to the compellingly expressive delivery by everyone on stage, and thanks to the distinctive structure where the same story is told twice, from two different perspectives. (...) But the strongest impression I came out with was that of a creative talent ready to produce its best creative results. Camacho has done an impressive job, especially by surrounding himself with a committed team of serious-minded performers and support personnel. If he can focus more of his impressive energies on this project there is no telling how far he can go.

VAMOS festival



“Three Word Poem About Loss” at The Caedmon Hall, Gateshead, June 2007.

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Sergio Camacho. Composer and Musical Director.

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 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 composition. *'Three Word Poem About Loss'*, where he has acted both as composer and librettist, was his first staged opera. This glance into *"The Equivocal Mirror"* is his second work for cinema, after winning 2007 Sound&Vision award by Northern Film and Media for the piece *"Landscapes Through my Window"*. 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 and Tim Garland.

Luis Ortega. Film Director and Counter tenor.



Born in Spain, Luis possesses the all too rare combination of creativity and performing talent. After studying Modern Languages and Music in Granada and Barcelona, in the prestigious Liceu Conservatoire, he moved to the UK and graduated in Theatre, in the speciality of direction. He is currently at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne preparing a thesis on the performance identity of the counter tenor. As a singer, Luis has collaborated with several early music groups such as 'Red Champion' and as a soloist with top musicians as conductor Michael Thomas, Allison Crumb of the Rose Consort, Julian Lloyd Weber,

Carlo Curley and the 'Medieval Babes' and sung in the professional choir of the Teatre Principal in Barcelona. Currently, he is also an alto layclerk in Newcastle Cathedral choir. Luis has studied with Eduard Gimenez, Marian Bryfdir, Richard Wistreich and Robin Blaze. He is currently a pupil of Lynne Dawson and Gilles Denizot. In the field of theatre and film, Luis has participated in many projects as a writer, actor and director, both in Spain and in the UK. In 2006, he directed and designed a production of Lorca's 'The House of Bernarda Alba' that showed at the Customs House, in South Shields.

Mariano Otheguy. Tenor and Artistic Advisor

Multitalented personality, Mariano Otheguy brings to life the unique romance between a successful career in Naval Engineering Research and a brilliant trajectory 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, Reykjavik, Eindhoven or Quito. His latest projects include the LatinFolk&Fusion band, *Luna de Mayo*, and *Teatro de Nieve* Production Company, both based in Newcastle upon Tyne.





teatro de nieve



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teatro de nieve luna de mayo

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