



Marta Topferova Latin trio **Original & Latin American songs**

Marta Topferova (vocals, cuatro, percussion)

Alejandro Soto Lacoste (guitar, 12-string guitar, accordion, piano, vocals)

Gabo Naas (guitar, mandolin, bass, clarinet, vocals)

Singer/songwriter Marta Topferova's Latin trio is dedicated to the rich tradition of Latin American songs. Their repertoire consists of rhythms and styles such as the Chilean cueca, Argentinean chacarera and zamba, Venezuelan vals and joropo, Andean huayno as well as original songs by all three musicians. Marta's uniquely deep voice with her own accompaniment on the Venezuelan cuatro and percussion along with Alejandro Soto Lacoste's and Gabo Naas' soulful playing is a combination that brings listeners into a spirited musical landscape.

Marta Topferova is one of the most unique singers and songwriters of her generation. She has been heavily influenced by Czech and Slavic musical traditions, as well as Latin American folk music. As a steady creative force on the New York music scene for sixteen years, Marta collaborated with some of the best musicians from the Latin, jazz and world-music circles, and this experience has forged a dynamic mix of styles in her work. Marta recently returned to her homeland, the Czech Republic, in order to launch an ensemble of Czech and Slavic music - Milokraj - meaning "beloved land". Marta has released nine albums of primarily original songs and toured the U.S., Europe, Argentina and Thailand.

Chilean songwriter and multi-instrumentalist **Alejandro Soto Lacoste** is a leading musician of the Chilean music scene. He studied piano, guitar, accordion and singing. He also studied counterpoint, harmony and composition with Chilean professor Fernando Carrasco, and later assisted him with projects with the Philharmonic Orchestra. Alejandro then mostly focused on Latin-American folk music and popular songs, composing and collaborating with musicians such as the well-known Chilean songwriter Nano Stern, the group Aranto, and many others. For the last twelve years, he has been living in Germany and has been working mostly on the Berlin music scene. He released two solo albums, *Interiores* (2008) and *Presente* (2013). In 2012 he began playing with Marta Topferova in the "Trova" quartet, along with another Chilean multi-instrumentalist, Cristian Carvacho.

Gabo Naas was born in Patagonia, Argentina. His musical beginnings were with his father who plays guitar and encouraged Gabo to start singing and to learn traditional songs. Gabo studied in various musical conservatories in Córdoba, Argentina where he developed his unique talent as a multi-instrumentalist. The guitar, voice and saxophone are his main instruments, but he also plays the Bolivian charango, clarinet,

violin, bass guitar and bombo drum. From 2005-2008 he lived in Buenos Aires, where he established himself on the music scene and composed for his Latin Jazz ensemble. For the last eleven years, Gabo has been based in Berlin, where he has lead a Latin jazz quartet, written music for films, and collaborated with a wide range of musicians, among them Cuban and African groups. Most recently, Gabo has decided to focus on his vocal and guitar repertoire, which consists of original arrangements of traditional South American songs, namely Argentinean chacarera, zamba, chamamé, gato, vals, as well as Andean huayno and carnavalito, interpreting these styles in a modern way, without losing the essence of their folk roots. Gabó's profound knowledge of the folklore and traditional music of his native Argentina and his rich musical experience as a multi-instrumentalist have given his vocal and guitar concept a very mature and sophisticated personal sound. Gabo is currently recording his first solo album.

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