

# *Milo ke Mandarini*

## *Músicas del Mediterráneo*



*Dossier 2015*





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### MILO KE MANDARINI - DOSSIER 2015

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Formed in 2008, Milo ke Mandarinini ("Apple & Mandarin" in greek), came out of the interest that two young musicians from Toledo - Carlos Ramírez and Isabel Martín - had in learning about different traditional music of the Mediterranean. They have travelled on several occasions to the countries of the eastern Mediterranean - like Greece, Bulgaria or Turkey - exploring first-hand the music of these cultures and studying their modal traditions with internationally recognized maestros.

Their live performances bring us closer to these styles of music, played with a great deal of sensitivity and respect, performed in a fresh and genuine way, and at the same time retaining the identity and distinctive nuances of this music. The result is an acoustic and minimalist sound both deep and meaningful. The Iberian traditional music and the Sephardic poems fuse with Ottoman melismas and rhythms of the Balkans, accompanied by simple percussion or refined tambourine rolls. Furthermore in an instructive way they introduce the audience to the different stringed instruments they play - baglama, yayli tanbur, hurdy gurdy or ud - originating from places like Crete or Istanbul.

Without losing sight of the modal tradition, they open up to the creation of new compositions and improvised performances, retaining the essence of the traditional cultures they appreciate so much and to which we all belong.

Over the past years, combining their musical training, they have presented their project at important folk festivals in the Iberian Peninsula and abroad.

## Biography of the group

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At the end of 2008 and as a result of their initial studies, they recorded their own CD that helped to get them known. In 2009 they were selected by the "Instituto de la Juventud" (Spanish Youth Institute) for its program "**Circuitos de Música 2009**", from which they went on tour around Spain. They received aid from the *Injuve* of Castilla-La Mancha to continue their studies on the island of Crete (Greece) at the *Labyrinth* Center, director of music Ross Daly. In the same year they were finalists at the **10th Concurso Folk Cuartu Los Valles de Navelgas** (Asturias).

Since that year, when their music career began, until today the following performances are noteworthy: **Festival Internacional de Música Sefardí de Córdoba** (2014), **Aula-Museo de Instrumentos Tradicionales Ibéricos de Paco Díez** in Mucientes (Valladolid, 2014), **Jornada Europea de la Cultura Judía** in Cordoba (2013), **Antigua Sinagoga** of Segovia (2013), **Festival Internacional de Música y Danza Ciudad de Úbeda** in Jaen (2012), **Semana Europea de la Cultura** in Accra (Ghana, 2012), **Festival Getxo Folk** (Bilbao, 2012), **Festival Folk Segovia** (2009 and 2011), **Círculo de Arte** of Madrid (2011), **Festival de Músicas del Mundo de Quito** (Ecuador, 2010), **Red de Teatros de Castilla La Mancha** (several concerts in the region, 2009-2011), **Festival Internacional de la Sierra** in Fregenal de la Sierra (Badajoz, 2010), **Festival de Teatro La Celestina** together with the theatre company La Recua Teatro in La Puebla de Montalbán (Toledo, 2009-2014), **Diputación de Cádiz** with their project of educational concerts "*Mar en el medio de las tierras*" (2009-2014), etc.

On the radio they have presented their work on Spanish programmes like *Discópolis* of **Radio3**, *Me lo dices o me lo cantas* of **Radio Exterior** of RNE (Spanish National Radio), *La noche en vela* of **RNE1**, *Factoría Musical* of **Radio Castilla-La Mancha**, **Cadena Ser**, **Onda Cero**, etc. - some of the most important radio stations in Spain.

In May 2011 they won the Spanish National Youth Prize **Premio Nacional Injuve a la Interpretación Musical "Creación Joven"** (Injuve National Youth Prize for a Musical Performance) **in the Folk Music category**.

During 2013 and 2014 they shared the stage and explored new sounds together with **David Larrínaga** (La Baldosa Flotante) and **Hristos Kanellos** (PA NI KE SO), among other artists. Recently they were invited by one of their most admired maestros, **Efrén López**, to join his new project. On stage they will present the new compositions of his first solo album, "*El Fill del Llop*". This new band, called "*Abracadabra*", brings

together the great musicians **Miriam Encinas Laffite, Hristos Barbas and Alexandre Guitart Luengo.**

Currently their work as a duo consists of studying and preparing their first album, “La Vereda de la Gitana”.

## **Group members**

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**Isabel Martín:** Voice, bendhir, square tambourine of Peñaparda, tambourine, spoons, davul, riq, daf...

From her childhood she was attracted by the traditional music and folk culture. She began studying singing and Iberian percussion at the Centro Ángel Carril of Salamanca; afterwards, during her travels to Crete and Bulgaria, she connected with the techniques of bulgarian and ottoman singing, guided by the renowned singers Tsvetanka Varimezova, Mercan Erzincan and Mariana Pepelyankova. Furthermore, she was instructed in percussion by Zohar Fresco, Vanesa Muela, Eliseo Parra and Vassilis Sarikis; in vocal technique by Mónica de Nut and in modal music by Efrén López, Hristos Barbas and Hristos Kanellos. She graduated in Social and Cultural Anthropology from the UNED.



**Carlos Ramírez:** saz, oud, lavta, hurdy gurdy, yayli tanbur, rabab.

His musical career began by playing classical guitar when he was a child, becoming interested afterwards in other less common stringed instruments. He has a passion for Ottoman classical music, as well as for other forms of modal music, ranging from Castilian folk music to Afghan or Indian traditional music. He has travelled on many occasions to Greece, Bulgaria and Turkey, where he has taken master classes of saz, ud, yayli tambur, makam and ottoman music with top-class teachers such as Ross Daly, Efrén López, Hristos Barbas, Evgenios Voulgaris or Erdal Erzincan.

## Multimedia

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Promotional video. [Puncha-puncha / Nihavent Yürük](#)  
([Tradicional sefardí](#) / [Carlos Ramírez](#))



[Directo Sinagoga Mayor de Segovia](#). September 2013



[Devojce, devojce](#). Traditional Macedonia



[Milo ke Mandarinini en Tarataña](#) in RNE 3



[Milo ke Mandarinini en Discópolis](#) in RNE 3

## Contact

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