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MAUREEN CHOI

"Maureen Choi is one of those rare talents that can navigate in a number of musical styles from classical to jazz and everything in between" - James Nadal. All About Jazz.

Since arriving to Spain in 2012, this Korean-American violinist is sparking a revolution in the improvised music scene in Spain.

Her band, the **Maureen Choi Quartet**, has played in Jazz Festivals in Spain and abroad, launched their record "Ida y Vuelta" in **Radio 3 RNE** and **La Hora Cultural TVE** (Spanish National Radio and TV), actively performs in the best jazz clubs, has completed successful USA tours and composed and performed the music for a new kind of show, premiered in Gran Vía (Madrid's Broadway), that blends Spanish classical dance, theater, fashion, and music created in collaboration with soloists from the **Spanish National Ballet**.

Choi is currently recording her new album and creating her own light, sound and music show working closely with award-winning light designer **Juanjo Beloqui** and **MiMart Studio**.

The vibrant response from audience and critics alike, which can be verified in this dossier, is explained due to the natural blend of her refined violin technique with the finesse and power of classical music, flamenco expressions, all kinds of reminiscences from music of the Spanish diaspora and rhythmic latin-american folklore, coming all together to create an expressive voice, previously unheard, that makes audiences spring from their seats at every concert.

A concert by **Maureen Choi** is an emotion-filled, unforgettable experience.

Violinist, composer and leader of the quartet, Choi was born in Michigan (USA). After winning several international violin competitions, starting at age 5, she has played as a soloist across Australia, Asia, Europe and North America. A graduate from **Michigan State University** and **Berklee College of Music**, she has performed with artists like **Rodney Whitaker**, **Johnny O'Neal**, **Larry Harlow**, **Josh Groban**, **Kanye West**, **Tran-Siberian Orchestra**, or **Javier Colina** and recorded for many artists and movie soundtracks. She has been a faculty member at Berklee College of Music and presently she teaches at Centro Superior Música Creativa in Madrid.

She recorded her first album as a leader "**Maureen Choi Quartet**" with jazz greats from the Detroit scene and after arriving to Spain and forming her own quartet, she recorded "**Ida y Vuelta**" featuring her original compositions and arrangements.



DANIEL GARCÍA DIEGO

Pianist, composer, producer and musical director. A graduate from the Conservatorio Superior de Salamanca and Berklee College of Music in Boston, has won awards and nominations as a musical theater director and was nominated to the Latin Grammys as producer and arranger of Ketama's Antonio Carmona. García has collaborated with artists like Jorge Drexler, Arturo Sandoval, Greg Osby, Jorge Pardo, Javier Colina, or Antonio Serrano.

As a leader, he has recorded 2 albums: "Alba" (best jazz album of the year in Spain, JazzForum magazine) and the recently released "Samsara".



MICHAEL OLIVERA

Drummer, producer, composer and arranger. Born in Cuba and graduated from Escuela Nacional de Arte in Havana. With an extensive career as sideman, he recorded his first album as a leader "Ashé", and has just released his second: "Oasis".

Olivera has performed in festivals such as Jazz a Vienne, North Sea, Montreux, Montreal, Blue Note NY, Blue Note Tokio, Jakarta Jazz, Warsaw Jazz Festival, Barcelona Jazz Festival and many others, and performed with artists and producers like Quincy Jones, Alfredo Rodríguez, Javier Colina, Sting, Munir Hossn, Yonathan Avishai or Rick Wakeman.



MARIO CARRILLO

Double bassist, arranger and musical director of the Maureen Choi Quartet, is a highly versatile musician. He has collaborated with artists like Pepe Rivero, Cyrille Aimée, Juan Parrilla, Suhail Yusuf Khan, Julio Awad, or the Brookline Symphony Orchestra and performed in festivals all around the world.

With a double undergrad from Berklee College of Music in Boston, and a Masters degree in Flamenco from ESMUC, he is currently the Director of the college-level modern music institution Centro Superior Música Creativa.



TRAYECTORY

In 2013 they won 1st prize in the International Jazz Competition in Talavera and they have, since then, played more than 300 concerts in clubs and festivals all over Spain and the United States.

In 2014 and 2015 they started appearing regularly in the Spanish jazz scene performing in festivals like Madrid Jazz Festival, Continental Latin Jazz CLAZZ, Jazz en la Calle Pamplona, Toledo Jazz Festival or Fundación Juan March and the jazz clubs of the capital.

In 2016 they launched their second album "Ida y Vuelta" performing in AIEnRuta-Jazz, Estival Cuenca, Lugo Jazz Festival, BurgoJazz Coruña, UniversiJazz Cuenca, BBK Jazz Guggenheim Bilbao, Jazz en las Murallas Ávila, and presented their work in the biggest music market in the world: South by Southwest Festival in Austin (Texas) while completing their first USA tour.

In 2017 they performed all over Spain in places like the XX San Javier Jazz Festival, Yecla Jazz Festival, II Atlantic Sons Festival, Jazz Teruel, Veladas Musicales en los Castillos Tiedra, and they sold out a whole week at Café Central Madrid (one of Downbeat's Best 100 jazz clubs in the world) for the fourth year in a row, just before leaving on their second USA tour: 10 dates in places like the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival in Michigan, and Chicago, Cleveland, Akron, Detroit, Baltimore, Boston and New York.

This tour was picked up by specialized media like Downbeat Magazine, All About Jazz, NYC Jazz Record, Discópolis and Trópico Utópico de Radio 3 de RNE, La Hora Cultural de RTVE among others that can be found in this dossier.

In 2018 they played in the I Festival de Jazz in Santa Clara (Cuba) and in Los Conciertos de La Estufa (Valladolid) where they were invited back to perform after being chosen as "Audience's Favorite Band 2017", and several concerts in the Madrid Theater Network.

In the Summer of 2018, the quartet completed a 4-month residency at the Teatro Arlequín Gran Vía, performing their music for MuDanza Show, a creative collaboration with soloists of the Spanish National Ballet.



MEDIA



24h LA HORA CULTURAL (CANAL 24H)



radio 3
rne
WITH JOSÉ MIGUEL LÓPEZ
"DISCÓPOLIS" (RADIO 3)

PRESS



"THE EXCELLENT QUARTET DISC *IDA Y VUELTA*, REFLECTS INFLUENCE FROM THROUGHOUT THE SPANISH-SPEAKING WORLD"

JAMES HALE (DOWNBEAT MAGAZINE)

REVIEWS





VIDEOS



Introducing Maureen Choi Quartet



"Alfonsina y el Mar" - Maureen Choi and Javier Colina



"Capriccio Espagnol" - Live at Café Central (Madrid)



"Bolero del Alba" - Live at AC Recoletos (Madrid)

A close-up portrait of Maureen Choi, a woman with dark hair and light makeup, looking slightly to the side. She is wearing a black lace top. A violin bow is visible in the lower right foreground.

maureenchoi.com

instagram.com/maureen.choi



facebook.com/MaureenChoiMusic



youtube.com/maureenchoimusic



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