



Zafarán

Music of the Mediterranean

About

Zafarán crosses time and boundaries, and incorporates musical traditions from around the Mediterranean, weaving together such diverse threads as Southern Italian chants, Sephardic love songs, Romani laments, and Turkish and Greek folk tunes. With driving rhythms, virtuosic improvisation, and the powerful voice of award-winning Italian singer Carmen Marsico, Zafarán bridges languages and cultures with their own eclectic blend of musical styles.

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Member Press

"Among the best of recently released and forthcoming world music albums."

Global Village/NPR

"They whirl through the rich, edgy kaleidoscope of southern Italian music."

New York Music Daily

"...passion and excitement"

FRoots UK

The Musicians

CARMEN MARSICO
VOICE

DAVIDE ROBERTO
PERCUSSION

BJÖRN WENNÅS
CHITARRA BATTENTE, MANDOLA, CHITARRA CLASSICA

DAN MEYERS
RECORDERS, FLUTES, DUDUK, CIARAMELLA, BAGPIPES



Zafarán

Tradition and curiosity...

DIVERSE AND DELICIOUS

The word "zafarán" comes from Arabic via old Persian, meaning "yellow" or "saffron". The most precious of all spices, saffron has been cultivated in the Mediterranean basin since ancient times. In Lucania, Carmen's native region, the local dialect uses "zafarán" to refer to the long, sweet red peppers from Senise (PZ), famous throughout Italy and beyond.

MEMBER PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Auditorium Parco della Musica (Rome) 2022
- Globalquerque (Albuquerque NM) 2021
- "La Luna e i Calanchi" Festival (Aliano, Italy) 2019
- PVD Fest (Providence RI) 2019
- Madison World Music Festival (Madison WI) 2019
- Library of Congress (Washington DC) 2018
- NY Gypsy Festival (NYC) 2018
- CRASHFest (Boston) 2018

MEMBER AWARDS

- Best Traditional Album, IMA Awards 2016
- Finalist, Best Traditional Song, IMA Awards 2016
- Finalist, USA Songwriting Competition 2016, 2018
- Nomination for Premio Nazionale Citta Di Loano Per la Musica Tradizionale, 2016, 2018, 2019

Sample Videos

TARANTA DI LIZZANO (TRAD. ITALIAN, ARR. ZAFARÁN)

EDERLEZI (TRAD. ROMA, ARR. ZAFARÁN)

AUSENCIA (GORAN BREGOVIĆ/TEÓFILO CHANTRE, ARR. ZAFARÁN)



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