



THE MARIACHI GHOST

2019 PRESS KIT



“

Because of my job I see a thousand bands a year. I listen to a to a lot of new stuff. I have never seen or heard anything like this. It is one of the most original projects I've ever seen. We will be following these guys' progress. We want to work together.

– Joe Ferrari, Sony Music Canada

They are without question one of the most dynamic and captivating collections of performers of traditional and progressive Mexican music one could ever hope to witness.

– John Scoles, Times Change(d)
owner (Winnipeg)

A killer Day of the Dead prog-mariachi with interpretive dance and a Guy Maddin-directed video. Too much concept for one band? Nope, not at all

– Laura Hamlett (Playback STL)

A Mexican mariachi/jarocho/rock band from Winnipeg?? Absolutely. And it works seamlessly

– Felix Contreras (NPR)

WHAT.
THE HELL.
WAS THAT?!

Oh my God, that was...AWESOME! Where do I see more of that?! That band is from Winnipeg? Get out. Seriously? GET OUT! How did they even come up with that idea? That's incredible. And it's working! Wow! What an amazing show...I can't even...I...Ha ha ha!

– Ticketmomster (Winnipeg music blogger)

The fusion presented by the Mariachi Ghost is masterful and the musical quality of their work is outstanding as is their performance. They use transcending musical elements in their songs.

– Christian Müller, Radio Femenina (El Salvador)

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BIOGRAPHY

The Mariachi Ghost, from Winnipeg, Canada, summon the ghosts of old Mexico through traditional Mexican song, haunting synths and explosive guitar lines, alongside rich harmonies, commanding lead vocals and spectral dance. Their show leaps from anguish and longing to a raging fury in a heartbeat.

The band started as an art project among friends in 2009 and has since grown to an internationally acclaimed touring act. The Mariachi Ghost has played festival stages such as Interstellar Rodeo, the Pan-American Games and the Winnipeg Folk Fest mainstage. The band has performed at SXSW, Tallinn Music Week, Mundial Montreal and Breakout West.

Their self-titled debut album won the “Best World Music Album” at the Western Canadian Music Awards and received international radio play. In 2015, they collaborated with legendary film director Guy Maddin to create a music video. 2018 saw the debut of ‘Rencor Vivo’, a Rock Opera based on the music from their forthcoming second album ‘Puro Dolor’ which takes inspiration from the seminal work of Mexican novel “Pedro Paramo”. Expect a new album, new visuals and a bigger version of their Rock Opera in 2019!



BAND MEMBERS

Bruce Berven:

Percussion,
Guitarra Vozarrona,
Vocals

Gabriel Fields:

Jarana,
Vocals

Adam Kroecker:

Bass,
Vocals

Alexandra Garrido:

Percussion,
Dance

Jorge Requena:

Lead vocals,
Guitar

Ian Mikita:

Drums,
Vocals

Rafael Reyes:

Lead guitar,
Trumpet

Timothy Friesen:

Keys,
Trumpet,
Quijada,
Vocals

RELEASES

The Mariachi Ghost - 2013



1. Cascabel
2. Mariachi Ghost
3. Luciferian Love
4. Rider
5. La Bruja
6. Sal
7. Llorona
8. Cempazuchitl
9. Eurydice

10. Sweet Water
11. Chamán

- The Mariachi Ghost won the **2014 Western Canadian Music Award** for “**World Recording of the Year**” for their self-titled independently released debut album.
- In June of 2013, the band undertook a massively **successful indiegogo campaign raising \$11,000** (\$1000 over the amount asked for) to help fund their first record.
- The album has been played on radio stations in Canada, the US, France, the Netherlands, Germany, Australia, Japan, Mexico and El Salvador
- *The Mariachi Ghost* album charting highlights:
#1 album of 2014 on CKUW (Winnipeg, Canada)

- #1 UMFH (Winnipeg, Canada), CBFU (St. Catharines, Canada), CFUV (Victoria, Canada)
- #2 CJAM (Windsor, Canada)
- #3 Ride the Tempo (Canadian Blog)
- #7 CILU (Thunder Bay, Canada) and CJSW (Calgary, Canada)
- #8 Radio Femenina (El Salvador)

Machete EP - 2010



1. Marigold
2. Mariachi Ghost
3. Rider
4. La Morena
5. El Cascabel

- Their sold-out EP, *Machete*, organically made it onto the college charts where it stayed for a solid 5 months and reached:
 - #1 in St. Catharines (ON) and Victoria (BC)
 - #2 in Calgary (AB), Windsor (ON), and Kamloops (BC)
 - #3 in Toronto (ON) and Winnipeg
 - #4 on the national college charts

Marigold Music Video - 2015



An alliance between legendary filmmaker Guy Maddin and the band allowed them to re-release Maddin's film “sombra Dolorosa” as their first official music video.

The film, re-cut by the band, is an incredible fit for the chosen track “Marigold”.

Released in the fall of 2015, the video was received with excitement by many fans of the cult filmmaker as well as an audience ready for the mariachi ghost's first video release.

Susana (The Paramo Sessions) - 2016



- Premiered on NPR's **Weekend Edition** (US)
- Featured in a video for Manitoba Music's **Loft Sessions**

UPCOMING RELEASES

Their new album 'Puro Dolor' is inspired by "Pedro Páramo" a short novel, written in the genre of magical realism, by Mexican author Juan Rufo in the 1950s. The book looks at the cultural maladies of a small turn-of-the-century Mexican town. Pedro Páramo turns the town into a ghost town where every archetypical character must remain forever in the cycle of their "sin" and become the sin itself. The album, produced by acclaimed musician Jesse Zubot, carries this thread of genetic trauma and the tragedy of loss through layers of progressive rock, psychedelia and heartbreaking boleros.

The music from this album is the source material for 'Rencor Vivo' a Rock Opera written and performed by the Mariachi Ghost. The 2018 debut of the theatre piece at the Prismatic Arts Festival in Halifax, NS was met with great excitement and plans are in place to remount the performance on a larger scale for 2019.



CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS

- Breakout/West (Kelowna, Canada)
- Winnipeg Jazz Fest (Winnipeg, Canada)
- Festival du Voyageur (Winnipeg, Canada)
- North Country Fair (Slave Lake, Canada)
- Canadian Music Week (Toronto, Canada)
- Winnipeg Folk Fest (Mainstage)
- SXSW 2016 (Austin, Texas)
- Tallinn Music Week 2017 (Estonia)
- Mundial Montreal (Montreal, Canada)
- Interstellar Rodeo (Edmonton, Canada)
- Panamerican Games (Toronto, Canada)
- Royal Ontario Museum (Toronto, Canada)
- Day of the Dead Festival - Harbourfront Centre (Toronto, Canada)
- Folk on the Rock (Yellowknife, Canada)
- Prismatic Arts Festival (Halifax, Canada)
- Regina Folk Festival
- Winnipeg International Jazz Fest
- Brandon Folk Fest
- The Rainbow Trout Festival (St. Malo, Canada)
- The Harvest Moon Festival (Clearwater, Canada)
- The Fire and Water Festival (Lac du Bonnet, Canada)
- The Winnipeg Fringe Festival
- Nuit Blanche (Winnipeg, Canada)
- Live on the Rooftop series for the Winnipeg Art Gallery
- Sold-out shows in Winnipeg at various venues



A photograph of a male musician performing on stage. He is wearing a dark blue jacket with white embroidery on the collar and sleeves, and a colorful patterned scarf. He is playing a black electric guitar and singing into a microphone. The background is dark with blue stage lighting. The text 'PROMOTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS' is overlaid on the right side of the image.

PROMOTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The band was featured on CBC's ***Definitely Not the Opera (DNTO)*** with Sook Yin Lee.
- The Mariachi Ghost was featured on ***NPR's Alt Latino's*** and ***Weekend Edition*** (US)
- Featured on music blogs: ***Mic.com***, ***Playback STL***, ***There Goes the Fear*** and ***Pocho.com***
- The band made waves in El Salvador, where they made the **front page of both major newspapers, *La Prensa Grafica* and *El Diario de Hoy***, as well as reaching **#38 in the yearly top 111 list of the radio station *Radio Femenina***
- The Mariachi Ghost was featured in ***La Jornada***, a national Mexican newspaper
- The band licensed music to:
 - The Food Network/Cooking channel/Discovery Channel Europe, Australia, Asia for the show ***From Spain with Love***
 - Discovery Channel US/Canada/Australia/Asia for the show ***One Night Stands with Annie Sibonney***
 - The online series ***The Book Club***

RELEVANT PRESS LINKS

La Prensa Gráfica (El Salvador)
La Jornada (Mexico)
CBC (Canada)
Winnipeg Free Press (Canada)
Revista Escenarios (Mexico)
Bizzarro (Mexico)
Revista Freim (Mexico)
Metro News (Canada)
CP24 (Canada)
Playback STL (US)
NPR (US)

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Facebook: facebook.com/TheMariachiGhost

Bandcamp: themariachighost.bandcamp.com

Soundcloud: soundcloud.com/mariachighost

Instagram: instagram.com/mariachighost

