



Argentines

WE ARE ONE

Juan Carlos Cambas

Conceptual Idea

We have always heard that Argentina is a "melting pot", probably because of the mass inflow of migrants we received in our country. Perhaps, we can define our culture as **"a mixture": ancient culture + acquired culture**. The process of transculturation between our indigenous people + external influences have led to what we are today as **"ARGENTINEANS"**.

After this mixture, the folk music of Argentina also changed: the "Zamba" has a background in traditional spanish music, the source of the "Cifra" is the seguidilla from Andalucia, the "Milonga" is based on gipsy melopea, etc. Otherwise, the rhythms from the places located far away from Buenos Aires (the immigrants port of entry) didn't change as much as the others: "carnavalitos", "vidalás", "bagualas" and "Huaynos".

The geographical factor is very important too. The connection between the man and the landscape defines our culture as well because our country is very big. Someone from the North is more similar to a Bolivian than to a person from Buenos Aires, and the last one is more similar to an Uruguayan. The environment defines our culture.

As Atahualpa Yupanqui once said: "La Pampa is an upside down sky", and that is true. It is a place that opens your mind, where you can walk free because it has no traps, landslides or depths. Strong as its singing, calm and reflexive.

The first abstraction a person faces in La Pampa is "the horizon". It is there but you know it doesn't exist. As you get nearer it will go further. That thought gives a mental dimension that makes you feel small because of the immensity of the landscape. It sings for you. Although a man knows the horizon is there, he will never reach it, so the singing from La Pampa is also reflexive, intimate, deep. As if it was amazed because of the place's greatness.

A person from the puna is surrounded by the mountains, so he sings louder. The high mountains make them do a cheerful music.

To sum up, a person from La Pampa sings lower because of that immensity, but speaks louder in order to be heard. A person from the puna sings louder projecting its voice to heights but speaks lower because the landscape is protecting him. This **man-landscape-music** relationship is also applicable to Coast, Cuyo and Patagonia people.

Concert Photos





Juan Carlos Cambas presents **"ARGENTINEANS"** a musical travel through our culture, landscapes and idiosyncrasy, showing the mix of races we are made of: Indian, gringos, creoles, immigrants... this **cultural diversity** defines our people, together with the different landscapes: Pampa, puna, coast, saline, jungle, etc. Both make us unique and they show that **WE ARE ONE**.

The pianist will open the concert with an ancient rhythm: Carnavalito, so we can learn about our original culture, then the mixtures with a Spanish musical background: the Zamba, an eighteenth century dance, the cueca, the Chilean zamacueca and the Peruvian marinera. After this, he will visit other geographical regions of Argentina as a Quartet.

Original arrangement based on the piano and joined by the guitar, the charango, the percussion and the violin. This is an **enriching and integrator** travel through the Argentinean culture nowadays.



Contact

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