صفارک seffarine







The sounds that stir the dry winds of Southern Spain and Morocco, two countries separated by only a whisper of the Mediterranean, are the musical DNA of a beautifully complex extended family linking North Africa and Europe.

The musicians of Seffarine, soulful Moroccan singer Lamiae Naki and flamenco guitarist Nat Hulskamp, supported by master musicians of diverse cultures, embrace and extend this rich legacy. Their exciting performances masterfully combine explosive flamenco footwork, exotic instrumentation and grooving basslines. These diverse backgrounds meld, creating what Bass Player Magazine calls a "gorgeous intersection of Spanish flamenco, Arabic and Andalusian music, Persian classical, and jazz".



online:



@seffarinemusic

@seffarinemusic

503.914.8299 Nat Hulskamp



seffarine1.bandcamp.com/releases



Seffarine Music



@seffarine



attn: Nat Hulskamp



an ear-caressing blend of sounds from Spain and North Africa, spiced with a bit of fiery instrumentation and percussion.

-Scott Stevens, SoundRoots



flamenco dancer Manuel Gutierrez



oud player Nat Hulskamp and vocalist Lamiae Naki



Persian multi-instrumentalist Bobak Saleh



bassist Damian Erskine

Seffarine: Forging a Fresh Flamenco and Moroccan-Inspired Sound of the Mediterranean

Born in the ancient city of Fes, Morocco, internationally acclaimed singer Lamiae Naki and her ensemble Seffarine channel their deep knowledge of the music of both sides of the Straits of Gibraltar, the crossroad where African, Middle Eastern and European cultures meet. From the 9th to 15th centuries these cultures coexisted peacefully, producing a seminal musical alchemy that influenced the foundations of both classical Arabic and European Renaissance music.

In the 21st Century, Seffarine embraces and extends the rich legacy of this golden age of tolerance and exchange between Muslim, Jewish and Christian cultures by creating fresh, innovative works reconnecting these shared Mediterranean roots.

Charged with texture and color, Seffarine concerts carry the audience on a vibrant musical journey, channeling the heart-wrenching joy of the music and dance of North Africa and southern Spain to wide acclaim. Described by Bass Player Magazine as a "gorgeous intersection of Spanish flamenco, Arabic and Andalusian music, Persian classical and jazz," Naki's fluid, riveting vocals entwine elegantly with Nat Hulskamp's expert flamenco guitar and oud. Persian classical master Bobak Salehi's sweeping kamancheh (spike fiddle) and tar (Persian lute) play off bassist Damian Erskine's grooves and the drums and explosive flamenco dance of Manuel Gutierrez. Diving deep into the drama and technical prowess that characterizes these traditions, Seffarine invites listeners to hear with fresh ears the age-old conversation that spanned a sea, reminding us of the connections and histories modern identities disguise.

Seffarine has performed at prestigious events and venues around the world, like the Lake Tahoe World Concert, winning over audiences from Indonesia to Spain. They have brought their musical vision and cultural knowledge to community audiences and schools, including a recent tour of rural Montana schools on the Fort Peck Reservation. The ensemble has a strong history of support from the field: in 2017, Seffarine was selected by the Western Arts Alliance as one of three Launchpad Artists. Their debut album, "De Fez a Jerez" was supported by a grant from the Regional Arts and Culture Council, allowing the group to work and record in Jerez, Spain with several of the living legends of flamenco music. The album received international acclaim and placed in the Transglobal World Music Charts top 20 world music releases, selected by a panel of 43 world music experts, and was named one of the "best African albums of 2015" by prestigious African music blog Afribuku.





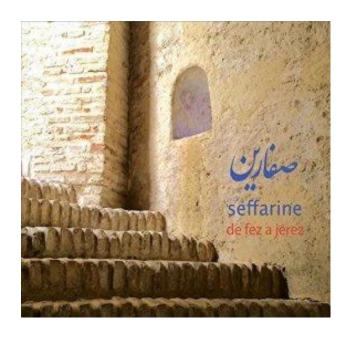
Seffarine in the Press



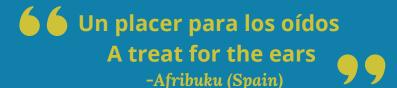
BP Recommends

by E.E. Bradman

On this gorgeous intersection of Spanish flamenco, Arabic and Andalusian music, Persian classical, and jazz, bass takes a deep back seat to otherworldy vocalist Lamea Naki and outstanding oud player/flamenco guitarist Nat Hulskamp. But the contributions of Damian Erskine (and on three songs, Bill Athens on upright) are undeniable. Erskine, sometimes nimble, sometimes droning, helps songs like "Masari" hang together; on "Awraq" he stays low, putting in just the right runs and muted passages. Likewise, Athens is tasteful but essential on "October" and "Zagharit."









Los mejores discos africanos del 2015

por Javier Mantecón

Seffarine, De Fez a Jerez

El norte de África y el sur de Europa están tan conectados culturalmente que obviar este hecho resulta un absurdo de quien no quiere ver. En afribuku no ocultamos nuestra pasión por el flamenco y es que desde hace muchos años que la música andalusí, la marroquí, el flamenco no se mezclan con tanto gusto. Hecho desde el conocimiento profundo de la música de ambas orillas del Estrecho de Gibraltar, nos tenemos que remontar a los experimentos de El Lebrijano con la Orquesta Andalusí de Tánger para encontrar un trabajo tan sólido. La diferencia en este caso es que la iniciativa parte del país magrebí, caso extraño en este tipo de trabajos, en este caso particular grabado en Jerez de la Frontera. Y no hablaremos de música de fusión simplemente porque no la hay. En este caso hablamos de una sola música, de los sonidos del Mediterráneo. Canciones tradicionales árabes y persas se juntan con tangos y bulerías en un cuerpo armónico que no desentona. El dúo, creado por la cantante marroquí Lamiae Naki y el tocador de oud y guitarra flamenca Nat Hulskamp cuentan con las colaboraciones de músicos de la talla de Diego del Morao, La Macanita, Bobak Saheli o Bill Athens. Un placer para los oídos.

DECEMBER 2015

Transglobal World Music Chart



- 1 Bixiga 70 (27)

 III Glitterbeat Records
- 2 Kandia Kouyate (-7)
 Renascence Stern's Music
- 3 Sam Lee & Friends (147)
 The Fade in Time The Nest Collective
- 4 Carles Dénia i La Nova Rimaire (-7)
 L'Home Insomne Combol Records
- V.A. (87)

 Lost in Mali Riverboat / World Music Network
- 6 Lura (-7) Herança Lusafrica
- 7 Saba Anglana (-7) Ye Katama Hod Felmay
- 8 Dizu Plaatjies and Friends (-7)

 Ubuntu: The Common String Mountain Records
- 9 Monsieur Doumani (14) Sikoses Monsieur Doumani
- 10 Vieux Farka Touré & Julia Easterlin (-7)

 Touristes Six Degrees Records

11 Ballaké Sissoko & Vincent Ségal (137)

Musique de Nuit Nø Førmat! / Six Degrees Records

12 Seffarine (-7)

De Fez a Jerez Seffarine Music

- 13 Mamak Khadem (-7)
 The Road Innova Recordings
- 14 Youssou N'Dour et le Super Étoile de Dakar (צי) Fatteliku (Live In Athens 1987) Real World Records
- 15 L'Attirail (-7)

 La Route Interieure Les Chantiers Sonores
- 16 Te Vaka (-7)

 Amataga Warm Earth Records
- 17 Griselda Sanderson (-7)
 Radial Waulk Records
- 18 Zohar Fresco (-7)

 Tof Miriam Zohar Fresco
- 19 Cheikh Lô (קער)

 Balbalou Chapter Two Records
- 20 Čači Vorba (-7) Šatrika Oriente Musik

Members of the TWMC panel (December 2015 vote): Juan Antonio Vázquez (ES), Araceli Tzigane (ES), Ángel Romero (US), Seth Jordan (AU), Tony Hillier (AU), Charlie Crooijmans (NL), Patrik Lindgren (SE), Nigel Wood (IE), Dore Stein (US), Roger Holdsworth (AU), Madan Rao (IN), Gil Medovoy (US), Chris Heim (US), Ciro De Rosa (IT), Scott Stevens (US), Hendrick T.S. Foh (MY), Cliff Furnald (US), Jaïr Tchong (NL), Rob Weisberg (US), Toni Polo (FR/ES), Nicolás Falcoff (AR), Masakazu Kitanaka (JP), Jordi Demésenllà (ES), Rafael Mieses (DO), Luís Rei (PT), Jean Trouillet (DE), Evangeline Kim (US), Willi Klopottek (LU/DE), Betto Arcos (MX/US), Thorsten Bednarz (DE), Alejandro López (ES), Jon Kertzer (US), Ken Stowar (CA), Jiří Moravčík (CZ), Ian Anderson (GB), Mu Qian (CN), Carlos Ferreira (PT), Dubi Lenz (IL), Anna Rzhevina (RU), Gil Rouvio (IL), Bouna Ndlaye (SN), João Flávio Lima (BR), Kutay Derin Kugay (TR)

Seffarine's album "De Fez a Jerez" has been included in the top 20 best world music releases by the **Transglobal World Music Charts, a panel of 43 world music experts from around the world**, along with great artists such as Youssou N'dour, Mamak Khadem and Vieux Farka Toure.



Seffarine in the ancient medina of Fes, Morocco





Top 10 World Music Albums

Seffarine - De Fez a Jerez Believe it or not, the exotic Mediterranean sounds of Seffarine come from Portland, Oregon. The first album from the duo of Moroccan singer Lamiae Naki and US oud player/flamenco guitarist Nat Hulskamp is an ear-caressing blend of sounds from Spain and north Africa, spiced with a bit of fiery instrumentation and percussion. A very promising debut. -Scott Stevens, SoundRoots

"a skilled blending of musical alloys"

-Willamette Week



"this enchanting album deserves international attention."

-Brett Campbell, Oregon ArtsWatch



Oregon music on record 2015: Worldly and jazzy New CDs of Northwest jazz and global music

by Brett Campbell

Oud player/flamenco guitarist Nat Hulskamp is one of Oregon's most experienced world music stars, playing in various ensembles and venues around town for years. With help from a 2015 Project Grant from Oregon's Regional Arts and Culture Council, Seffarine, his primary duo with Moroccan singer Lamiae Naki, recorded their ten original compositions with famous flamenco musicians Tomasa "La Macanita," percussionist Luís de Periquín, and Diego del Mora (Paco de Lucia's favorite guitarist) in the Jerez, Spain (known for its pervasive Gypsy culture), with further recording sessions in Portland.

Sung in Naki's native Arabic as well as French and Spanish and accompanied by flamenco guitar, oud, Persian kamancheh and sehtar, bass and percussion, the new album soulfully embraces flamenco, Moroccan, Persian, Malagasy, jazz and Brazilian influences, courtesy of Persian multi-instrumentalist Bobak Salehi (Hulskamp's partner in the Portland ensemble Shabava) on kamancheh (spike fiddle), sehtar and tar (lutes) and violin, bassist Damian Erskine, Malagasy percussionist Manavihare Fiaindratovo and Indian tabla player Anil Prasad.

Such an extreme range of diverse voices could easily turn into a contrived multicultural mush, but it all feels seamless and natural, tied together by Naki's plangent vocals and Hulskamp's flamenco flourishes and their original songwriting voice. Fans of groups like the Gipsy Kings, Oregon, or Portland's Al-Andalus will find much to enjoy, and this enchanting album deserves international attention.



"Todos mis ídolos son de Jerez"

Nat Hulskam y Lamiae Naki son los componentes del dúo Seffarine, dos artistas que mezclan la música árabe con el flamenco, la música clásica persa o el jazz americano.



BORJA GARCÍA TEJERO ■ 3 DE MAYO, 2015 ■ 3 MINUTOS EN LEER

Nat Hulskam y Lamiae Naki son los componentes del dúo Seffarine, dos artistas que mezclan la música árabe con el flamenco, la música clásica persa o el jazz americano. Los estudios de 'La Bodega' son el lugar donde están grabando un disco en el que han compartido su talento con artistas como La Macanita, Luis de Periguín, Manuel Macano y Diego del Morao.

Flamenco y música marroquí beben de lo popular. No están tan lejos como pudiera pensarse. Desde hace una semana, se cuece en plena calle Francos un interesante proyecto musical mestizo que funde ambos estilos musicales. Seffarine, dúo formado por la cantante marroquí Lamiae Naki y el guitarrista Nat Hulskamp, prueba a combinar texturas y sonoridades con artistas de la cuna del arte jondo. No en vano, ya son varias las horas de grabación en las que estos talentosos músicos, se encuentran fusionando su música con la aportación de algunos artistas de la ciudad como, Luis de Periquín, La Macanita y su hermanos Manuel Macano y Diego del Morao. En el repertorio musical de Seffarine existen variaciones que van desde el árabe clásico a la música andaluza, unido también al flamenco, la música clásica persa o el jazz americano.

El dúo estará en Jerez hasta el próximo 6 de mayo, una fecha en la que esperan haber terminado con este provecto musical, que aunque aún no tenga un nombre escogido, la ilusión y pasión puesta en él merecerá la pena de oir.

Seffarine toma su nombre del antiguo centro de trabajo de metalistería en Fes, Marruecos, donde los parientes de Lamiae son reconocidos tradicionalmente como maestros de la metalistería. Desde el siglo nueve se escuchan los complejos ritmos martillados por los herreros del barrio, prueba evidente de las similitudes con el flamenco, ahí está la fragua y el martinete.



sentimiento más puro de la melodía,

Las manos de Nat Hulskam están talladas con el talento y el esfuerzo de un guitarrista que ha tomado clases del mismísimo Diego del Morao, un ídolo para él y del que ha aprendido gran parte de su maestría. La dulce voz de Lamiae refleja el sentimiento más puro de la melodía, donde el alma convive en una comunión constante por el amor a la música...

Recording in Jerez de la Frontera:

a collaboration with the greats of flamenco

Jerez, Spain- Seffarine's debut CD, De Fez a Jerez

("From Fez to Jerez") was named after Nat and Lamiae's well worn path between the two cities. Fez is the ancient cultural capital of Morocco and Lamiae's home city. Jerez is a town in Andalusia, just across the Straights of Gibraltar, well known for being home to many of the great artists in flamenco music. Nat has done much of his training in Jerez with the flamenco guitar masters of the mostly Gypsy neighborhood, Barrio Santiago.

In 2015, Seffarine was awarded a grant from the Regional Arts and Culture Council to travel to Spain to record their original music in collaboration with living legends of flamenco music, including **Diego del Morao** and **Tomasa La Macanita**. After Spanish newspaper *La Voz del Sur* published an article about Seffarine's recording project, word spread through the barrio and some of the living legends of flamenco came to the studio to check out the project. Seeing the solid background and deep respect for the traditions of flamenco, alongside a fresh approach and creative explorations of the common history and musical roots of Morocco and Andalusia, they enthusiastically offered to collaborate with Seffarine.

What followed were several midnight sessions full of creativity, soulful improvisations and collaborations with these artists Nat and Lamiae had listened to and admired for years.



Nat and Diego del Morao in the studio, Jerez, Spain

The record gained Seffarine international acclaim when it placed in **top** world music charts around the globe, including Afribuku's Top 13 African Releases and the Transglobal World Music Charts, a panel of 43 world music experts from 28 countries. Spanish music critic Javier Mantecón wrote, "made from in-depth knowledge of the music on both banks of the Strait of Gibraltar, we have to go back to El Lebrijano's experiments with the Andalusian Orchestra of Tangier to find such solid work." Apple Music chose one of the tracks, an homage to the late-great flamenco singer Camarón de la Isla, for the **official Apple playlist**, "Inspired by Camarón de la Isla", along with the top artists of flamenco, such as Pepe de Lucia and Tomatito.

De Fez a Jerez continues to receive acclaim internationally which has led to several other recording collaborations in Spain, including flamenco-pop star Sarayma, La Bejazz, a group of flamenco jazz fusion virtuosos from Marchena, Spain, and most recently, recording a Seffarine original with master flamenco guitarist Antonio Rey, who many consider to be the heir apparent to Paco de Lucia's throne.

Credits:

Lamiae Naki, voice Nat Hulskamp, guitar and oud Diego del Morao, flamenco guitar Tomasa la Macanita, voice Luís de Perikín, percussion Damian Erskine, bass Bobak Salehi, kamancheh,/sehtar Bill Athens, bass Kendra Carpenter, cello
Juan Diego Valencia Vargas, palmas
Manuel Makano, palmas
Recorded at La Bodega Studios,
Jerez de la Frontera, Spain
by Josema Pelayo
Mixed by Antonio Maldonado,
Sevilla, Spain
Mastered by Kiel Bishop, Vancouver, WA

"made from in-depth knowledge of the music on both banks of the Strait of Gibraltar, we have to go back to El Lebrijano's experiments with the Andalusian Orchestra of Tangier to find such solid work."

-Spanish music critic Javier Mantecón, Afribuku



Past Performances include:

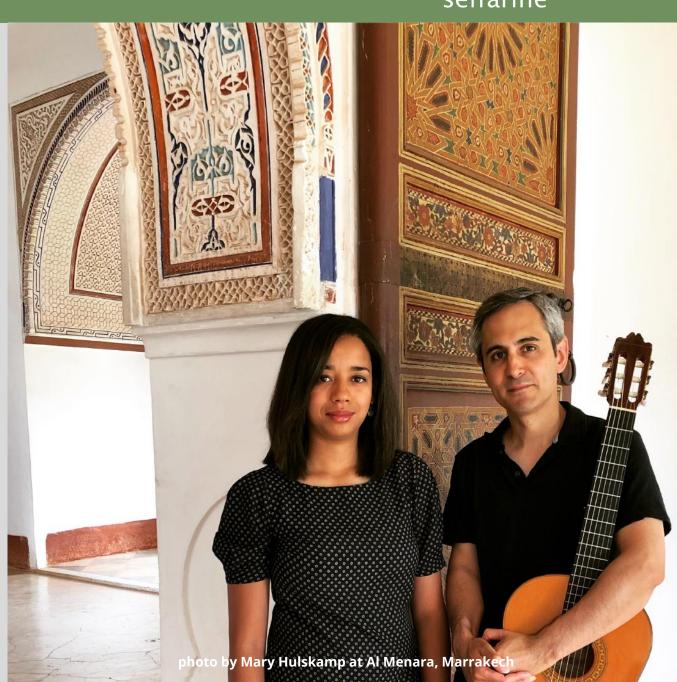


"Presenting Seffarine was a tipping point for our series. Their performance drew our largest and most enthusiastic audience to date"

-Patrick Roulette, Director WWU Global Spice Concert Series, Bellingham, WA

Columbia City Theater | Seattle, WA Western Washington University | Bellingham, WA Sprague Theater | Bandon, OR Ruang Putih | Bandung, Indonesia The Straw Hut | Bali, Indonesia Serendipity | Jakarta, Indonesia Alberta Rose Theatre | Portland, OR Oregon Shakespeare Fest | Ashland, OR University of Puget Sound | Tacoma, WA Holocene | Portland, OR SXSW Representing Seruni Microphones | Austin, TX Royal Room | Seattle, WA Secret Society | Portland, OR Ashkenaz | Berkeley, CA Walters Cultural Arts Center - Hillsboro, OR University of Oregon, Eugene, OR World Concert - Lake Tahoe, CA El Camino College Center for the Arts - Torrance, CA West Charleston/Clark County Libraries - Las Vegas, NV

Broadway Performance Hall | Seattle, WA



Virtual Seffarine

Seffarine is keeping the music playing!

Seffarine is continuing to connect and engage with audiences through multi-cam, high quality audio live stream concerts. Seffarine offers live performances and interactive educational programs streamed to your audience via Youtube, Twitch, Facebook and just about any platform!

The concerts include live chat visible to the ensemble during the performance, keeping the interactive, community feeling of a live performance and allowing for Q & A during both concerts and educational programs.



"they held my audience captivated both at the engagement activity (which drew three times as many people as I anticipated!) and at their concert."

> Stephanie Wenning, Executive Director, Del Norte Association for Cultural Awareness



Residencies/Outreach

All of Seffarine's artists have backgrounds in education as well. Please inquire about residencies, workshops and masterclasses offered in Arabic, Persian, jazz, flamenco music and dance. For more information and videos about our outreach programs, visit our Outreach Page:

seffarine.com/outreach







Testimonials



"performing artists who understand how to connect and communicate with an audience." -Patrick Roulette, WWU

"The Global Spice World Music Series at Western Washington University presents music that blends western and non-western musical traditions and explores the fusion of world music with contemporary, classical, jazz, and popular music styles. As a relatively new concert series, we have been steadily building our audience and reputation in the community and region. Presenting Seffarine was a tipping point for our series. Their performance drew our largest and most enthusiastic audience to date and I have received many positive comments from students, faculty colleagues and community members who reached out to thank me for bringing Seffarine to Bellingham. Their music is exciting and beautiful with deep roots in the traditions of Flamenco and Arabic music and their professional performance and stage presence showed their skills as performing artists who understand how to connect and communicate with an audience."

-Patrick Roulette, Director, WWU Global Spice Concert Series, Bellingham, WA

"Seffarine performed their concert program "From Fez to Jerez" to a very enthusiastic and welcoming audience. The program consisted of original compositions, mixed with traditional Arabic and Flamenco arrangements. The performance was described as "Flamenco meets Moroccan and Persian Music", and Seffarine definitely delivers and doesn't disappoint. Lamiae and Nat expertly guided the audience through the program, different languages, and explained the background and origins of the arrangements. Lamiae's powerful, smooth and silky vocals were perfectly suited to the upbeat tunes and slow ballads (not to mention multiple languages!). She was well matched with the equally talented Nat Hulskamp on guitar and oud, and master cajon player, Diego Alvarez, among others in the band. Each musician was a virtuoso and had their chance to shine during the performance. Included in this program was flamenco dancer and percussionist, Manuel Gutierrez, who delivered expert and energetic flamenco dance to accompany the ensemble, and it was icing on the cake! We received terrific feedback from our audience members and they warmly cheered Seffarine at the close of the performance, still wanting more. The evening reminded me of my travels to Morocco and made me long for another trip... it was a very special evening indeed."

Rick F. Christophersen, Director, Center for the Arts at El Camino College, Torrance, CA

"Seffarine is the real deal; they are truly professional and beyond talented. Each musician in the ensemble brings something unique and beautiful, from a lilting vocalist to enchanting instruments to a flamenco dancer and percussionist, they held my audience captivated both at the engagement activity (which drew three times as many people as I anticipated!) and at their concert. I have heard lots of positive feedback in the two days since the show asking to bring them back. On top of all of that, they are a joy to work with; everyone is pleasant, patient, and kind. A presenter's dream."

-Stephanie Wenning, Executive Director, Del Norte Association for Cultural Awareness (DNACA)

"Seffarine opened the World Concert at Lake Tahoe with sensational and beautiful music and dance. The audience was energized from the first song with Persian music and a flamenco dancer that brought joyful cheers from people of all ages. It was a pleasure to work with Nat, from the first planning steps to their performances on the stage and on the nature trail. Seffarine's traditional music expanded our audience's knowledge of culture and history while celebrating community and unity through world music. Months later many audience members are still talking about their powerful performances that touched people's heart and soul."

- Nancy Tieken Lopez, Artistic Director, Trails & Vistas World Concert, Lake Tahoe



Booking inquiries:

Nat Hulskamp

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- Seffarine Music
- <u>@seffarine</u>

We look forward to working with you!

