



CZARNA WOLGASTAR

The alien trio formation of Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica



Wanting to expose your audience to jazz—but need songs that connect with your not-so-jazz audience?

Does your community like Hollywood movies, spy thrillers, and the American Songbook—but you also want to expose them to innovative music?


CZARNA WOLGASTAR

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Online at orchestrotica.com/trio
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Is your space or series on the small size, and best for artists with minimal tech needs who can also offer educational outreach?

The aliens from Czarna Wolgastar may be just what your audience needs!

- **Story-Driven Audience Connection**
Every concert includes "narration" throughout, in which the ensembles takes the audience behind the compositions and arrangements so they can more deeply appreciate what they're listening to. This is the #1 thing audiences repeatedly say they like about performances; there is no wall between the audience and ensemble.
- **Familiar songs, with a jazzy, balkan twist**
While the group also performs original music, the trio presents everything from 007 and the Avengers to Mr. Sandman—familiar material your audience probably knows, but has never heard interpreted by aliens who think these songs are supposed to be played strange meters heard in the Balkans with dreamy, surfy overtones!
- **Small footprint, minimal tech, and teaching artists**
The performers are all professionally trained musicians who have worked with artists including The Who, Donna Summer, national Broadway tours, and contemporary modal ensemble, Labyrinth Ontario. The group has been self-managed for 20+ years, touring in the US and in Europe, Canada, and Mexico with a 22-pc ensemble, and offers multiple workshop/outreach options.
- **An audience of 11,000+ Spotify Listeners & 7,400+ Email Subscribers**
The Orchestrotica's music, including that of the trio formation, are enjoyed by thousands of listeners every month.
- **Risk Free, Guaranteed**
The group offers a 100% money-back guarantee on its performances: if we don't deliver an outstanding experience (from backstage to the concert), we'll return our entire performance fee, in full, no questions asked.



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Bio

Contact: Brian O'Neill (brian@orchestrotica.com)
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Short Bio

Czarna Wolgastar is the intergalactic balkan surf jazz arm of Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica. Whenever the space ship Wolgastar 1 returns to Earth, three non-corporeal Wolgastarian entities embody three members of the Orchestrotica's quintet formation: Tev Stevig (guitar), Michael Harrist (bass), and Brian O'Neill (drums). Together, the trio - or sextet, depending on how you think of it - release a strange, other-worldly cocktail of Balkan beats and Milky-Way mischief crossed with the American songbook, Hollywood film soundtracks, and more. The group has been presented by the Celebrity Series of Boston, the Sheldon Theatre, and on multiple interstellar internet livestreams. Launched in 2020, the trio is the newest format of the eclectic instrumental group, Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica known for it's modern exotica and global jazz quintet, and the world's only Esquivel Megaband playing the lost space-age pop of Juan Garcia Esquivel.

Sounds Like:

Bill Frisell plays dark Americana, surf, Spaghetti Westerns, 007, and Hollywood hits in Balkan, Greek, and Turkish rhythms such as 7/8, 11/8, and 10/8.

Special Artistic Note from the Wolgastarians

(approx. Wolgastarian → English Translation):

Czarna Wolgastar is world's only Wolgastarian surf rock trio in whole of Milky Way land. After visiting planet Earth land while touring big galaxy, their spaceboard, Wolgastar I, crashed on beach Albania close by. Stuck like a tape on earthland, the group now travels the Balkan sand and water ways, picking up surfing, fast picking, and music traditions of countries on journey, as they search for gasoline to take ship in the empty space black. Should you encounter big big ship or their music, under never no circumstances attempt to board Wolgastar I or record their music. Czarna Wolga is not toy, listened to on recorded media, or performance at home. Czarna Wolga never forgets!

(Want the Wolgastarian translation? Visit cwtrio.com !)

Presenter Testimonial:

"Czarna Wolgastar's unique approach to Jazz elevated our event and showcased the diversity of the genre. Attendees really enjoyed their style and interpretations of the set list. They were a pleasure to work with!"

–Elizabeth Kracunas, Sr. Mgr. Performance Operations
Celebrity Series of Boston

Tour History:

Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica & Czarna Wolgastar

Formation: quintet unless noted: (T) for Czarna Wolgastar Trio or (M) for Esquivel Megaband.

2025:

- Panama City Music Association (Panama City, FL)
- JP Music Festival (Boston, MA) (T)
- Mayo Street Arts (Portland, OR) (T)
- 2025 JazzRoad Tour (Winner)
 - Arnette Scott Ward PAC @ Chandler-Gilbert Community College (Chandler, AZ)
 - Alvas Showroom (Los Angeles, CA)
 - The Golden Tiki (Las Vegas, NV)
 - Coconino Center for the Arts (Interference Series) (Flagstaff, AZ)

2024:

- Artesia Arts Council (Artesia, NM)
- Bowlus Fine Arts Center (Iola, KS)

2023:

- Celebrity Series "Jazz on the Charles" (Boston, MA) (T)
- Norton Museum (West Palm Beach FL)
- New Bern Civic Theatre (New Bern, NC)
- Tybee Post Theater (Tybee Island, GA)
- The Century Room (Tucson, AZ)
- Doña Ana Arts Council/Rio Grande Theatre (Las Cruces, NM)

2022 and Earlier:

- Bank of NH Stage @ Capitol Center for the Arts (Concord, NH)
- Sheldon Theatre - Remote Livestream (MN) (T)
- South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (Cutler Bay, FL)
- The Hukilau Festival (Fort Lauderdale, FL)
- Venice PAC / Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota (Venice, FL)
- Center For Performing Arts Bonita Springs (Bonita Springs, FL)
- Detroit Institute of Arts (Detroit, MI)
- New Music Edmonton (Edmonton, AB)
- Huntington Summer Arts Festival (Huntington, NY)
- Lied Center (Lawrence, KS)
- Musical Instrument Museum Theatre (Phoenix, AZ)
- Huntington Summer Arts Fest (Huntington, NY)
- Horizon Concert Series (Flagstaff, AZ)
- Montreal Jazz Festival @ Main Stage (Canada) (M)
- Wassermusik Festival @ Haus der Kulteren der Welt (Berlin) (M)
- Pace Presents / Celebrate Mexico Now Festival (NYC) (M)
- Levitt Pavillion Steelstacks (PA) (M)
- Taliesin West/Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture (AZ)
- Le Poisson Rouge (NYC) (M)
- Festival de Mexico @ Teatro de la Ciudad (Mexico City) (M)
- Festival Internacional de Nuevos Vientos Ecatepec (Mexico) (M)



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Outreach/Education Programs 1-Sheet

Contact: Brian O'Neill (brian@orchestrotica.com)

For more details, visit: orchestrotica.com/edu-programs

Uneven Waves: The Balkan Surf Sound

Ages 10+

Balkan music meets...American surf...and jazz? How does it fit together? With lots of 2s and 3s! Go behind the rhythmic scenes with the alien and human members of Czarna Wolgastar to learn how the trio combines it all together. Attendees will learn to clap and keep the beat to some of the grooves and how an urban legend surrounding the infamous "Czarna Wolga" birthed the trio. 45 mins + Q/A. Full band.

Turkish Makam and Music of the Middle East

Ages 12+

An introduction for Western musicians to the modal music traditions of the Middle East through demonstration, discussion and participation. 1hr. and 3hr formats. Taught by Mike and Tev.

Music Fundamentals through Modal Singing

Ages 5-Adult (multiple class options)

An experience-based investigation into the fundamentals of music through the most ancient instrument, the human voice. 1hr. and 3hr formats. Taught by Mike.

Developing a Personal Artistic Identity and Career

College/University Music Majors

For ambitious students seeking to pursue a career in music. Attendees will learn to get themselves or their ensembles booked, practical sales and marketing skills for leaders, & startup thinking. Taught by Brian.

2s and 3s: The Balkan Beat Generator

Grades 4-8 / Jr. High / HS / 18+ Adults

Rhythm workshop! Ensemble members will give an interactive demonstration of how using combinations of 2 and 3-beat groupings create the "Balkan feel." We relate this to dancing, give kids chance to generate their own new "rhythms," and help them understand why these rhythms often sound "foreign" to Western ears. Full band.

A Tambourine Tour of the World

Grades 4-8 / Jr. High / HS / College / Adult

Artistic Director, Brian O'Neill, will give a lecture/demonstration of the rhythms and playing styles of global tambourines including the *pandeiro*, *riq*, and *tamburello* and styles from 6 global traditions. 1hr.

North Indian Raga

Ages 12+ / 25 max

A hands-on journey into the world of Raga via the Baba Allaudin Khan tradition. Students will learn via traditional methodologies in which playing and repeating is heavily favored over explanation or theory. Taught by Mike.

Private Lessons w/ Mike and Tev

Ages 8+

Acoustic bass, guitar. Possibly available as well: Turkish *ney*, North Indian Raga, guitar, Turkish *oud*, banjo, ukelele, clawhammer, cumbus.



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