



¡CALIENTE!

Caliente *Em/B*

«Hot» is the slogan of the four member ensemble.
It summarizes fiery Latin-American music
with haunting ballads and Cuban rhythms.
They play bubbling yet superior Latin fusion chamber music,
with lots of sun and joy!



Michael Publig - piano, keyboards

Antonis Vounelakos - guitar

Rafael Jenner - drums

Gerhard Graml - bass

Intro Em Am
B7 Em/B

A gorgeous Andalusian landscape with horses and bulls in spring,
when everything is in bloom and the leaves of the bitter oranges smell splendidly ...
and the butterflies dance in the tender wind.



My „famous“ toro bravo in
«Una noche en julio en las praderas andaluzas»



Michael Publig, known as a master of the versatile arrangements, often does his work in the background and barely visible to the audience. To be on stage together with him as a musician and band leader in his numerous musical projects is therefore not only satisfaction, pure enjoyment and great fun, but also a musical challenge and an enriching experience for everyone involved. When Publig, as the organizer and switch-maker for musical explorations, puts the notes on the musician's desk, you know that all parts fit together here. From the most demanding Chick Corea compositions to the relaxed rumba, concentration and economy determine every tone of the arrangement.

Publig is familiar with the ability of instruments to let tones swing widely and to fill spaces with vibration and intensity. This is how the sounds emerge when the musicians play together, deeply engrossed in an improvisational conversation, you meet each other, comment, repeatedly swap roles and create new sound constellations with audible pleasure.

About *Caliente* you can imagine the following picture in your mind's eye: the sun is high, the hot desert wind burns on your skin, scraps of tiny melody ornaments lay over the desert like heavy rain clouds, which resound in rugged beauty. But actually a whole world of music, big enough for trips to the ice deserts of the north and the rainforests of the tropical south. *Caliente* combines melody, rhythm and harmony with tonalities of various origins to create a very fine meta-music from all directions ...

And one more thing: jazz, which according to Jelly Roll Morton absolutely needs the Latin American or Spanish coloring to make this music dance, plays the main role; In love with melodies and dynamic, with a lot of brilliance, joy of playing and charm. Whether in the small format, or wide screen and Technicolor, Michael Publig tries a little more refined and elegant with every new attempt -
¡Qué hombre!

Gerhard Graml
(Bass player and poet!)

RAFAEL JENNER



Very interesting, versatile music!
It was a pleasure,
to participate in this production.

GERHARD GRAML

To be on stage together with Michael in numerous musical projects as a musician and band leader is not only satisfaction, pure pleasure and great fun, but also a musical challenge and an enriching experience for everyone involved.



**ANTONIS
VOUNELAKOS**



In the mid-nineties I got to know Michael on a flamenco project.
It was the beginning of a wonderful human and musical friendship.

When Michael calls and greets me with the words "I have something for you", I immediately know what that means: a lot of work and beautiful, mostly spirited music.

The next step is always to receive incredibly well-written scores of his compositions.
This sometimes leads to callbacks on my part and begins, for example, with the words:
"Hey Michael, how do you mean that in measure 356"?

If he can't be reached, I'll always be optimally compensated by the explosive Samba rhythm of his answering machine.
Whether Samba, Flamenco, Ravel, Bernstein or Elton John: if you want to know something about music: Ask Michael ... the walking music dictionary.

"Caliente" is really hot. I feel the aura of our heroes Paco and Chick,
the scent of Andalusia.

Dear Michael, thank you

Antonis



MICHAEL. PUBLIG

What others say:

„Here's something you've never heard before. It's so versatile, emotional, creative and so authentic in its own style.

Congratulations, my dear genius friend Michael!“

Man! You've created such incredible music. Truly, it's killing!

Makoto Ozone

“Caliente”, although full of new compositions, the music already sounds like they are classic standards.

Publig conjures up Latin and Flamenco traditions and treats them with his musical sophistication while keeping it sounding modern and popular.

This is perfect music to just sit back and relax at home with or to blast on the speakers while driving in a convertible through hot Iberian-American landscapes.

Hyung-ki Joo

„Class and soul at rendezvous, congratulations! I hope one day to be invited to add my voice to your amazing work!“

And I am not kidding with my offer...!!! I grew up with this music!!!

José Cura

Michaels comments on the music*:

Saludos de la Habana (Greetings to Havana) Performed by Caliente (Michael Publig, Antonis Vounelakos, Rafael Jenner and Gerhard Graml)

This piece was one of the very first songs Caliente was performing. I originally composed this suite for 2 pianos (for a student friend of mine) and didn't want it to be that difficult. In fact, it turned out not that easy... it summes up several styles and parts, starting with a typical Latin flavour, going into a salsa section, showing a melody which could have been written by Michel Camilo, turning into an improvised Samba section and so on.

Una noche en julio en las praderas andaluzas (A Night in July on Andalucian Meadows) Performed by Caliente

I composed this piece especially for this ensemble „Caliente“. I first heard a voice (and a choir) when writing the main melody, but of course I was adding more parts with my wonderful fellow musicians in mind. Actually I was thinking of my several trips to Andalucia and especially of one day when I was searching the famous „Toros bravos“ (the bulls). It was very sunny (as mostly) and I found them playing peacefully in the green meadows. You get the idea by watching the foto with the bull in this CD.

Suite Cubana Performed by Caliente

- 1) Charanga Habanera
- 2) Recuerdos de la Vieja Guardia
(The Remembrances of the Old Guard)
- 3) Los Caballos del Valle de Viñales
(The Horses in the Viñales Valley)
- 4) Cuba Libre (Fiesta de Libertad)
(Free Cuba, Fest of the Liberty)

Ever since I heard «Irakere» I immediately fell in love to Cuban music. At that time (as a teenager) I even wasn't aware what kind of super group I was lucky enough to listen to, but it draw my attention to further studies of this culturally rich country within the next years, and to be honest, my interest never stopped!

This four part suite starts with «Charanga Habanera». A charanga is a traditional ensemble that plays Cuban dance music. They made Cuban dance music popular in the 1940s and their music consisted of heavily son-influenced material, performed on European instruments such as violin and flute by a Charanga orchestra. My version of it is a bit more modern maybe, but after all, we do live some years later, don't we?

In «Recuerdos de la Vieja Guardia» I imagined a Cuban musician in his already more experienced days, sitting on the main plaza, watching the youth of today and remembering good old times. In fact, I composed it with a trumpet solo in mind (Arturo Sandoval playing it?), but eventually I think the solo guitar with Antonis adds a very special colour to it.

As a horse lover I always dreamed to take a ride in the most beautiful Valle de Viñales. The first part of the third movement «Los Caballos del Valle de Viñales» actually is a fast vals (combining 6/8 and 3/4 rhythms, very close to the vals venezolano, inspired by the great Paquito d'Rivera). Since I love horses with character, they sometimes have their own mind, so, it gets a bit crazy in the 7/8 salsa section. This odd meter is a lot of fun!

The last part, is called «Cuba Libre (Fiesta de Libertad)». After 54 years since 1961 (the birth date of the composer) Cuba eventually celebrated its liberation, and this movement reflects its happiness.

Composition-wise, I was thinking of the strong Jazz influence Dizzy Gillespie spread in Cuba, and one of his masterpieces was A Night in Tunisia – no, not Cuba :-). The first two chords (Em-F7) are a little homage to this standard.

The «Suite Cubana» reflects classical, folk and jazz music alike, styles most prominently in the rich Cuban cultural tradition. But most importantly, hopefully, it shows the joy and happiness of the Cuban people!

Buscando (Searching)

Performed by Michael Publig (piano, keyboards) and Antonis Vounlekos (guitar)

I once composed three piano tango nuevos and this piece turned out to be the slow middle part. In fact, it sounds more than a love song by Paco de Lucia than a tango, but so it was. As always when a nice melody should be performed, Antonis gives his soul when playing this melody. It's always most joyful to play with him.

Picante y con todo (Scharf mit Alles)

Performed by Michael Publig (piano, synthesizer), Antonis Vounlekos (electric and acoustic guitar) and Rafael Jenner (drums)

This piece was written especially for Rafael, the wonderful drummer in this recording. I wanted to have a real challenge for us (but especially to him), and maybe for the listener as well. It has a high energy level throughout, with the exception of the slow acoustic guitar part in the middle. I decided to add this part to calm down (for everybody). You have to bear in mind that Rafael practiced this piece several weeks, partly because he doesn't read charts which makes his musicality unbelievable for me!

The title ironically should reflect the question asked when ordering Kebabs, but musically it should contain „everything“

The Mistery of Ronda

Performed by Michael Publig (piano, keyboards, percussion programming), Antonis Vounlekos (guitar) and Rafael Jenner (Snare drums and drums set)

- 1) Introducción
- 2) Part 1
- 3) Canto de la Solea
- 4) Part 2

This four part suite is by far the oldest of music I composed. I remember that I didn't use any instrument when writing down the notes, just using pencil and paper, with nothing else. This can be a big advantage because I don't get distracted by anything or anyone. It's not my usual way to compose, but I occasionally added some minor parts when I recorded the demo version.

Ronda is a beautiful town in the mountains of Andalusia and I was happy to have visited a „cante festival“ for the first time in my life. It started at midnight and ended sometime in the morning, what an incredible event. I especially was impressed (in my youth) that the best people were experienced men and women and not the pretty young people like in pop music.

The first part was co-composed by Antonis and Michael. The piano solo („Canto de la Solea“) basically was a written improvisation.

Paco de Algeiras

Performed by Michael Publig (piano, keyboards) and Antonis Vounlekos (guitar)

Algeiras is the city where Paco (de Lucia) grew up. I wrote that piece on the evening when I learned about his passing. In fact, the main section isn't any Paco reference in musical terms, but an expression of my feelings when I heard that. It could also be film music or anything else.

The „Paco-part“ is simply the improvisation by the piano and the guitar, very reflective. Thank God for this master of guitar and music in general.

Flamenco (Chick Corea)

Performed by Michael Publig (piano, synthesizer, (incl. bass), Antonis Vounlekos (guitar) and Rafael Jenner (drums)

Chick is the hero for the whole ensemble. His most widely spread musicality (in so many styles which can't find a place to mention here) and incredible versatile creativity always has been an inspiration to all of us.

Chick has written so many master pieces, and some of them are hidden treasures, like this one. There exists only one recording (on „Tap Step“) and the nice thing for me was to arrange a flamenco guitar to it (which is missing in the original version). I hope Chick would have liked it!

Michael Publig

MICHAEL PUBLIG – *piano on all tracks, keyboards (incl. bass on nos. 2, 8-12, 14)*

ANTONIS VOUNELAKOS – *guitar on all tracks*

RAFAEL JENNER – *drums on all tracks except nos. 7 & 13*

GERHARD GRAML – *bass on tracks 1, 3-6)*

*Michael plays Bösendorfer piano, Yamaha Montage synthesizer,
Spectrasonic Omnisphere synth sounds, Trilian bass and various spitfire audio samples.*

Antonis plays a Ramirez guitar and self made guitars.

Rafael plays Yamaha maple custom absolute and remo ambassador clear on all drums.

Gerhard plays a double bass by Charles George Brugère from 1892.

All music composed & arranged
by Michael Publig (except «Flamenco» by Chick Corea
and «Introducción» to Ronda by M. Publig & A. Vounelakos)

Recorded 2020, mixed early 2021

Artist fotos: Georg Brenner

Artwork, cover and fotos (p.2, 3, 16 and all scores): Michael Publig

Produced by Michael Publig


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