

# CACAO MENTAL

**CACAO MENTAL** is a psychedelic electro-cumbia band from Milano, Italy.

**CACAO MENTAL** live show is a tribal ceremony of technological animism, a wild and immersive party, an acoustic experience built by extensive use of improvisation and artificial sounds that rig soundscapes as rich as the jungle: **a shaman voice over the hammering of the electronic grooves, around trumpet themes and lysergic guitar twangs**: suggestions, explicit homage to mariachi, cinematic quotations, pure psychedelic rides and pop culture references that have replaced the allegories of the primitive man in the subconscious of modern man. Every CACAO MENTAL show is a unique performance, it is a CUMBIA state of mind.

**Para Extrañas Criaturas** (La Tempesta Dischi, 2018).

Features *Ayahuasca Sublime*, inspired by the holy plant used as a sacral psychotropic, acoustic visions that morph the traditional cumbia into electronic landscapes, like the evergreen *El Pescador*, *Tingo Maria*, inspired by the Peruvian city at the border with the amazon forest, contact point between human noise and virgin forest, a magical place whose legends are the raw material of the visionary texts of Kit Ramos.

*Bandero* and *Candela*, the exuberant side of tropical vitality, and *La Cumbia Triste del Futuro*, a sci-fi ballad interpreted by the unmistakable voice of Davide Toffolo, founder of "Istituto Italiano di Cumbia", and godfather of cumbia in Italy, *Mercante*, written in collaboration with the Peruvian chicha-muffin group La Inédita.



## BIOGRAPHY

2014 Kit Ramos and Stefano Iascone drink a rum bottle and start writing *cumbias*.

2017 Marco Pampaluna joins the band and they start touring.

"*Tingo Maria*" opens the first compilation of **Istituto Italiano di Cumbia**, (*La Tempesta Dischi*).

Released "*Mercante*", a song written in collaboration with the Peruvian band **La Inédita**.

2018 Released the first album, "*Para Extrañas Criaturas*", a synthesis of the compositional recipe that from cumbia develops towards psychedelia.

The Band tours all over Italy

"*Que el Viento Borró Tus Manos*", Cacao Mental version of the classic Emilio del Guercio, opens **Istituto Italiano di Cumbia vol.2**, (*La Tempesta Dischi*).

2019 Cacao Mental compose and produce a song, "*Mortacci Tua*", with **MYSS KETA** for her new album *Paprika*, compose and collaborate for "*Astrocumbia*" with **The Sweet Life Society** for their album *Manifesto!*, and write the song "*Fiesta*" that **Jovanotti** released for the summer tour Jova Beach Party.

## CUMBIEROS

**Stefano Iascone:** trumpet player, producer, composer, arranger, sound engineer, and eclectic multi-instrumentalist, has chewed musical genres of all kinds: patchanka, world music and ska-core touring throughout Europe with Roy Paci & Aretuska, Figli di Madre Ignota, Shandon, Solidamor. Cacao Mental comes after an unstoppable research for different sounds developed both in studio and live.

**Kit Ramos:** native of Tingo Maria, a city on the edge of the Peruvian forest, sings from early age in mariachi, salsa, flamenco and cumbia formations. He brought his vocal style from South America to Milano in 2002, where he resides today. He has played with many groups including Tren del Sur and Mariachi La Plaza, where he met Stefano Iascone, and from this meeting began his transformation into a *shamanic cumbiero*, a synthesis of different vocal attitudes in a unique visceral and primitive style.

**Marco Pampaluna:** guitarist with a long experience with Figli di Madre Ignota, has worked with Banda Osiris and Firewater. He has brought into Cacao Mental sounds from Tex-Mex to Duane Eddy, psychedelic echoes and alien guitars sounds.

## LINKS

[cacaomental.it](http://cacaomental.it)

[La Tempesta](#)

[Para Extrañas Criaturas](#)

## VIDEOS

[El Loro y La Lora](#)

[Fiesta](#)