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MESTIZX IS AN ECLECTIC & CELEBRATORY EXPRESSION OF PROGRESSIVE, POST-GENRE, DE-COLONIAL LATINX MUSIC

DEBUT ALBUM FROM IBELISSE GUARDIA FERRAGUTTI & FRANK ROSALY OUT TODAY VIA INTERNATIONAL ANTHEM & NONESUCH

"SONIC WONDERS COLLIDING IN REALLY GREAT WAYS"
— NPR MUSIC

"INFECTIOUSLY KINETIC"
— THE GUARDIAN

WATCH A VIDEO FOR THE RELENTLESS "TURBULÊNCIA" [HERE](#)



Photo by GUMO

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Today, Bolivian-born singer and multi-medium performer **Ibelisse Guardia Ferragutti** and renowned Chicago expat jazz drummer **Frank Rosaly** release **MESTIZX**, their debut full-length album as co-composers, arrangers and musicians out now via International Anthem / Nonesuch.

Also out today is the thrilling video for the relentless and pulsating **"TURBULÊNCIA."** Directed by Ferragutti and Rosaly's MOLK Factory cohort Noortje van den Eijnde (with additional camera by their old Chicago comrade Marc Riordan), it transfers the immediacy of the track's clave-powered groove into a blur of plastic-wrapped ballet and contorted faces.



[Watch "TURBULÊNCIA" here.](#)

Partners in both marriage and art, the Amsterdam-based Ferragutti and Rosaly dove into the sounds of their respective ancestral roots in Bolivia, Brazil, and Puerto Rico to create a deeply personal meditation on decolonization and the defiant power of ritual and protest. They chose the title **MESTIZX** – a non-gendered version of the sometimes slurred Spanish colonial word for a "mixed person" - as a means of both challenging and embracing the liminality of their identities and artistic practices.

Lead single **"DESTEJER"** is a perfect introduction to the sound world of **MESTIZX**, with propulsive rhythms led by Rosaly on drums with guest percussionist **Mikel Patrick Avery**, piercing cornet leads from International Anthem labelmate **Ben LaMar Gay**, and Ferragutti's soaring, sonorous vocals. Sung in Spanish, her refrains translate to: *"Mending my words, I embrace the knowledge of my body, unweaving the homogeneity... Tentacular roots, they take me to my ancestors... Tectonic ancestors, Tectonic ancestors."*

"DESTEJER" also came alongside a stunning video filmed at Corani Lake near Ferragutti's hometown in Cochabamba, Bolivia. In the video, Ferragutti and Rosaly pose still or move slowly in harmony with wide shots of the epic Andean landscape. Bolivian director Espectador Domesticado says about the work: *"We were interested in thinking about time, the dialogue with it, building in Corani Lake our own imaginary, our own temporality, a kind of limbo, where these two wandering characters wander without any apparent purpose or direction. We wanted to give a lot of space for contemplation in editing, during the filming days we were seeking to capture that unexpected gesture, prolong the small actions, give voice to the landscape as if it were just another character. We invented a ritual where Ibelisse can recover certain memories of the territory, through a ritual, as an alchemist where she melts some pieces of tin that she finds in the lake, and when and it solidifies they can read in the silhouette of this metal, as a record of the past."* [Watch "DESTEJER" here.](#)

The album was produced and recorded primarily at **International Anthem Studios** in Chicago, where Ferragutti and Rosaly were joined by a community of musicians and beloved friends including **Matt Lux**, **Avreeayl Ra**, **Ben LaMar Gay**, **Daniel Villarreal**, **Bill MacKay**, **Rob Frye**, and **Mikel Patrick Avery**, with additional contributions from **Chris Doyle**, **Guilherme Granado**, **Viktor Le Givens** and **Fredy Velásquez**.

The music creatively infuses Latin rhythmic patterns and oblong swing from pre-and post-colonial Latin America into a collision of avant jazz, art punk, Chicago post-rock, bomba, plena, cumbia, Andean, minimal, electronica, and folk. A wholly original but undeniably universal sound – both of-the-moment and alluringly futuristic - **MESTIZX** contains points of reference and resonance for fans of Juana Molina, Café Tacvba, Max Roach & Abbey Lincoln, Liquid Liquid, Arto Lindsay, As Mercenarias, The Ex, Tortoise, Tom Zé, Elza Soares, La Mecanica Popular... It's a vast, vibrant and encompassing spectrum of sounds, but at its core **MESTIZX** is a lucidly conscious collection of auto-biographical statements from Ferragutti & Rosaly on the deeply personalized effects of colonialism on geography, history, and identity. Despite its heavy subject matter, however, **MESTIZX** finds a lifeline in communal, celebratory, soul-bearing and movement-inducing music.

Rosaly says: *"I grew up quite Puerto Rican in my home, but was taught to mask it outside my home. I wasn't allowed to speak Spanish, so the drums eventually became my language, secretly tying together my own feeling of connection to mi tierra. This record is the first time I actively give voice to the nuance within myself, allowing me to take ownership of this in-between, which is what this album communicates for me... There is this unusual place that exists between these two cultures, of which I am both. There is a complex story in that sliver of in-betweenness, worthy of giving voice to all of us that live in-between."*

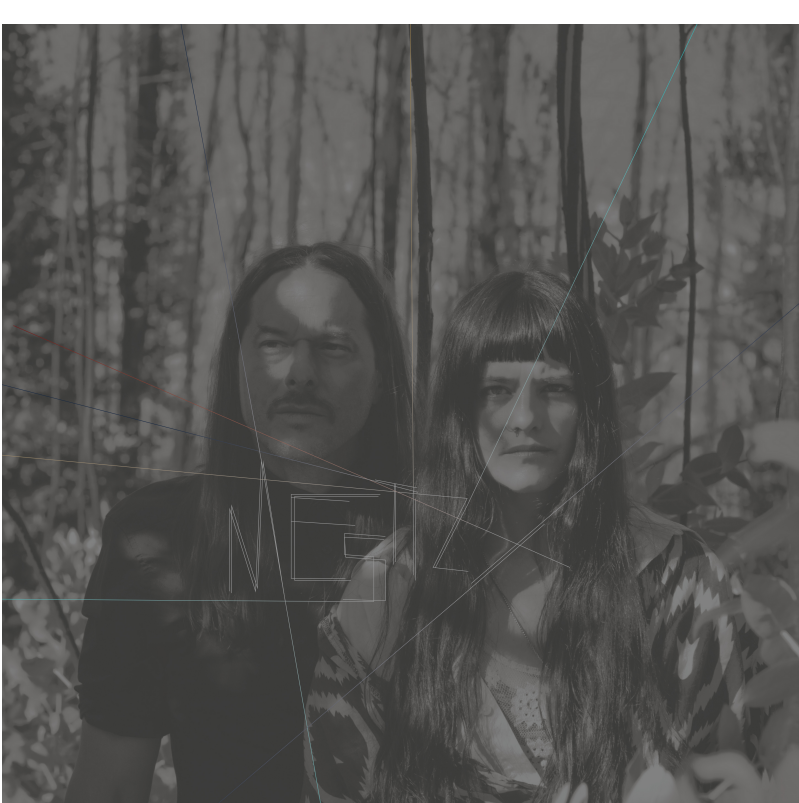
Ferragutti adds: *"My personal understanding is one that stems from being placed in between lineages that carry the colonizer and colonized, the oppressor and oppressed, the demon and the angel... thus by definition is tied to post-colonial social constructs which we as Bolivians have to step in, like a 500 year novel that goes on and on... We have access to many memories and traditions, but not really, because we don't fully belong to any of those... This makes us feel we're in a constant state of being the "visitors" and "outsiders." On one hand, we are never truly part of one lineage. On the other hand, it makes us a travelers of worlds, storytellers in between multiple languages, cultures, and worldviews. We chose MESTIZX for this work as an act of recognizing the mixed state of being as a difficult and yet powerful one."*

For further reading, the artists wax eloquently and poetically on these subjects in their [liner notes](#) for the album.

"TURBULÊNCIA" is out now, buy/stream it [here](#).



MESTIZX is out now, get it [here](#).



TRACKLIST

INVOCAÇÃO

DESTEJER

TURBULÊNCIA

BALADA PARA LA CORPORATOCRACIA

MESTIZX

BARRO

SABER DO MAR

BLESS THEE MUNDANE

DESCEND

WRITING WITH KNOTS

SIRINUS

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Ibelisse Guardia Ferragutti is an Amsterdam-based multi-medium artist who has worked as a performer, theatre maker, visual artist, musician and producer. Raised in Bolivia within Bolivian and Brazilian families, Ferragutti describes their work as *"deeply interwoven in post-colonial justice, the paradox and beauty between grief and celebration, Andean Cosmology as a source of reclamation, resistance and resilience. Embodiment embedded in sonic fabrics while speculating myths through word oracles. I am a neo-mestiza, a spiritual activist, a femme defender and a Moon lover."* Her notable musical collaborators include: Alabaster DePlume, jaimie branch, Ab Baars, Wilbert de Joodé, Eric Boeren, Mary Oliver, Paul Koek, and The Paper Ensemble. Along with her partner Frank Rosaly, Ferragutti founded the DIY arts/music space MOLK FACTORY in Amsterdam in 2017. [Learn more about Ferragutti here.](#)

Frank Rosaly is a Puerto Rican drummer, composer, and sound designer with several decades of touring, performing, recording, and creating to his name. Born and raised in Arizona, Rosaly was known for his fifteen years of creative work on the Chicago jazz and improvised music scene, before moving to his current residence in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, in 2016. He has been featured on over 150 recordings, and is in constant collaboration. Artists he has worked with include: Fennesz, Joan of Arc, Jeff Parker, Thurston Moore, Nels Cline, Joshua Abrams' Natural Information Society, Colin Stetson, Rob Mazurek, Ryley Walker, jaimie branch, and many others. Since 2005 Rosaly has self-released recordings under the MOLK label, and in 2017 co-founded the DIY arts/music space MOLK FACTORY with his partner Ibelisse Guardia Ferragutti in Amsterdam. [Learn more about Rosaly here.](#)

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