



**TOR** is a new quartet in the Galician Atlantic folk scene. It was formed in 2018 by four musicians, with different influences and a long journey in the folk and Celtic international scene: **Cástor Castro** (wooden flutes, bouzouki, ulna), **Félix Castro** (anglo concertina, button accordion, Galician bagpipes, cane bagpipes), **Xosé Liz** (bouzouki) and **Álvaro Iglesias** (double bass).

They have just released *«Zira»* (Avidplay 2024) which gives their new work a symbolism that shows the fundamentals of their personalities, their music and their way to exist in the world:

**TOR is the tower**, tarot's Major Arcana no XVI, which represents the victory of the spirit and renewal on a solid foundation, rooted in the earth.

Cira (Silleda) is the place where they recorded this new work, and it means *«full moon light»* in the tamazight language (berber): **Zira**, and this gives the name to the CD.

**Powerful instrumental sets** with original tunes are taken from the Galician tradition and some of their own compositions, provided mainly by the *Arquivo Castro Vicente's* fieldwork, for over 30 years. They also include other new Iberian tunes, from the Portuguese, Basque or Castillian musics.

**Solid harmonic base** with *bouzouki* and *double bass* underlie the melodic line, driven by *bagpipes*, *flute*, *accordion* and *anglo concertina*, forming an acoustic sound, consistent with works in European folk.

*Muiñeiras* (jigs), *xotas*, *alboradas* (dawn melodies), *pasacorredoiras* or polkas, followed with other more leisurely tunes such as *alalás*, Christmas songs, waltzes or mazurkas, show wide range of sonorities and atmospheres.



In **2020** they released their 1st CD «*TOR-Folk Céltico da Galiza*» and now they are working in projects such as BSO for the «Luarada» film (Zinemusik) about the story of Manuel Blanco Romasanta, the Galician Werewolf, and «Kallaikos» by Paco Boluda.

TOR were semifinalists in the **MIN Awards 2021** (Spanish Independent Music); in 2022 and 2023 they reached highest positions in the **TOP40 Global** World Music platform, based in Canada ([www.ethnocloud.com](http://www.ethnocloud.com)), and position number I in the **TOP40 West European charts** with the «*Alboradas*» clip. On 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023, *Ethnocloud* nominated them **Artist of the Day**.

In **2023** they had concerts in the Ortigueira Folk Festival, the Catoira Viking Feast, Portugal, they were finalists at the prestigious competition **Folkez Blai** (Ermua-Euskadi) and they presented two concerts at **Folk Canarias**.

In **2024** they had successful tours of Castilla y León (Patio Corsario-Valladolid, Museo Etnográfico de Castilla y León-Zamora, and Casa Lis-Salamanca) and in Portugal (Festa do Caldo-Quintandona, Catro Maos Festivals) and worked hard towards capturing their live sound in the new release «*Zira*».

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Contract: Músicas ao Vivo S.Coop.Galega

### Web page & videos



<https://torgaliza.es>



<https://www.facebook.com/torgaliza/>



Top 40 Tracks - December : West European		Top 40 Videos - December : West European	
1	Unsuspected Universes - Gnosslenne 3 Giles Zinnenmann	1	Breaking of the Ties James J Turner
2	Alboradas TOR - Folk Céltico Da Galiza, Galician CelTrad Music	2	MY MIND MARCO PERINCE
3	Breaking Of The Ties James J Turner	3	Piruxalda de Argomoso & Muñeira de V TOR - Folk Céltico Da Galiza, Galician CelTrad Music
4	Moonlight Over The Garden Paul Venn & Friends	4	Mazurca do Cachoupiño TOR - Folk Céltico Da Galiza, Galician CelTrad Music
5	The Forest Debbie Dee	5	Carol of the Bells - Hurdy Gurdy Cover Sheonator Pheas



### DIGITAL CDs

«*Zira*» [Avidplay 2024](#)

«*TOR*» [Avidplay 2020](#)

[Folk Canarias Concert](#) (12/2023)

[Casa Lis Concert-Salamanca](#) (2024)





**Cástor & Félix Castro** were founders of the Asturian folk band **Felpeyu** in 1991; as well as members of Pancho Alvarez band, Gomes Mouro Traditional Music School, and the traditional quintet **Lubicáns**. In music researches they published *County Limia Traditional Music Catalogue*, *County Limia Music Sounds CD-book*; exhibitions & conferences about famous bagpipe & hurdy-gurdy player and maker *Faustino Santalices* (catalogue and acts); “*Cord Sheets*” and *blind musicians* (Lugo Provincial Council 2024)... They also developed publications and specialised courses about *Manuel Blanco Romasanta*, Galician Werewolf, and about Magic literature editors in Spain (UNED University), presented exhibitions about Spanish grimoires (magical spell books): «*Demon’s books*» (Lugo Provincial Council), «*Saint Ciprian the Magician: About, prayers, cipriniallos & treasures*» at the Ribadavia Ethnologic Museum and Marcos Valcárcel Museum at Ourense (2021, 2022).



**Xosé Liz** is a well-known musician with international prestige in Galician folk & Celtic Music, with more than 40 productions with the best Galician artists (Cristina Pato, Susana Seivane, Rodrigo Romaní, Anxo Pintos, Anxo Lorenzo, Begoña Riobó...), and a regular presence in the main scenes (Lorient Interceltique Festival, Celtic Connections, Piping Live, Vall D’aOsta, Scottish Weekend...). He is a professional musician, producer, arranger and composer; and tenured professor of Flute and Plucked instruments at the prestigious folk and traditional School **ETrad** Vigo since 2009. In 2022 he released his first solo album «El Cantar de los flautares» and in 2025 will release a new solo innovative project «Indala» .

**Álvaro Iglesias** is trained in classical music, he developed his career in traditional Galician music. His mentors were the Lithuanian Iminas Kucinkas, as well as Cris Gándara, Camilo Freire and Carlos Méndez. He was a member of bands such as Tres, Carlos Núñez, Pancho Alvarez, Faltriqueira, and the bagpiper Anxo Lorenzo, participating in many international festivals. As producer, composer and arranger, he worked in more than 30 albums and documentaries for TVG, Discovery Channel or film soundtracks. He is nowadays a member of *Arán*, *Entre trastes*, *Ardentía*, *Son de Seu*, and *Rodrigo Romaní* band. He has also released three solo albums: «Alma», «Vagalume» and «Mainelo» (2025).





## TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

<b>Félix Castro:</b>	Anglo concertinas Button accordion Galician bagpipes		I XLR / I jack connectors -Melody: XLR connector -Bass: XLR connector
<b>Cástor Castro:</b>	Flutes, presentations Bouzouki		Sennheiser MD441-U / Drone: Shure Beta 98 (or similar) SM58 XLR connector
<b>Xosé Liz:</b>	Bouzouki		XLR connector / I power point
<b>Álvaro Iglesias:</b>	Double bass		XLR connector / I power point

Four speakers. Four armless chairs and a high stool

Concert duration: 60 to 90 minutes (agreed with the organisers).

TOR offers two shows: **TOR quartet**, and **TOR & guests**, incorporating renowned figures such as **Pancho Alvarez** (violin), **Luis Peixoto** (mandolin), **Soco Rúa** (tambourine), and **Lucía Cedrón & David Leadbeater** (dance), who bring greater dynamism and beauty to the show.

