

# Libérica presents «ARRELS / ROOTS»

*A new vision about folk music where  
flamenco, jazz and iberian folklore go together.*

Bassist **Manel Fortià** ([www.manelfortia.com](http://www.manelfortia.com)) presents his most innovative and original project, **Libérica**, that makes an approach to iberian folk music from a new fresh point of view.

After a season living in New York and having played with great jazz icons such as **Dave Liebman**, **Eliot Zigmund**, **Ari Hoenig** or **Chris Cheek** among others, decides to return to his homeland and explore into the traditional Catalan repertoire without letting go of the musical effervescence of the jazz mecca, where its multiculturalism has always led to the merging of different styles to create new ones. With this philosophy, Libérica seeks common ground between traditional Catalan song and flamenco, using free jazz as a conducting vehicle. The renewal and updating of folklore is necessary and helps to keep it alive. His showcase at **Jazziam 2023** in Barcelona was one of the best celebrated and succesful in a fair full of international bookers.

The Libérica group also has two of the new values of flamenco-jazz made in Catalonia such as the singer **Pere Martínez** and the pianist **Max Villavecchia** from 'Los Aurora'. In addition to the international collaboration of one of the new revelations in European modern jazz, the French drummer **Raphael Pannier** (Miguel Zenón, Aaron Goldberg, etc.), resident between Paris and New York. As a guest could be the saxophonist and flamenco singer **Antonio Lizana** and lately, one of the most fresh and beautiful voices and talented saxophonist from Barcelona, **Eva Fernández**, joined to the group and brings some new mediterranean colors.

VIDEOS:

**La Dama d'Aragó** (Fandango-Jazz/Seguiriya)  
<https://youtu.be/hqFsdKYQM0o>

**El Cant dels Ocells** (Soleá por Bulerías)  
<https://youtu.be/DSwg6im1hrq>



AUDIOS + PR:

[http://tiny.cc/Liberica\\_Cat](http://tiny.cc/Liberica_Cat)

«Fortià is a masterful composer of great breadth and imagination.»  
**Jazziz Magazine**

«Fortià himself is a bass player's bass player, with a sound to die for and a rhythmic feel that is equally at ease with flamenco and deep gospel.»  
**London Jazz News**

«This is an incredible outing for a young bandleader and should firmly establish Manel as a voice to be heard for years to come.»  
**Grammy Award-winning pianist Arturo O'Farrill**



Foto: Mireia Miralles

**Arrels / Roots** (Segell Microscopi, 2021) is the first album of Libérica. It is an album that revisits the great standards of traditional Catalan songbook, such as 'El Cant Dels Ocells', 'La Dama d'Aragó' or 'Els Tres Tambors' in the key of flamenco and jazz, mixing their lyrics with traditional songs that speak of the same themes but with different words. The voices of the Catalan Pere Martínez and the Cádiz-born Antonio Lizana represent these two coexisting worlds within the Peninsula that meet in Liberia in an organic and free way thanks to jazz, which could be said to have become an integrating music and a universal language during the last decades. It was selected at the top 10 of **best jazz albums** of 2021 by the prestigious spanish magazine Enderock.

**blumusic productions**

Fede Serrat  
+34 646 92 25 82  
info@blumusic.cat

(\*)Libérica is co-production of La Marfà and Auditori de Girona