

THUNDER PERFECT MIND

Maya Fridman cello/composition

Efrén López saz/hurdy-gurdy/ud

Kristia Michael vocals

Soheil Shayesteh kamancheh/live electronics/visuals

Ruven Ruppik percussion

Conchita Boon flamenco dance



Thunder Perfect Mind is a cross-over project blending current and traditional music from Greece, Turkey, and Andalusia.

The inspiration behind Thunder Perfect Mind is a mysterious Gnostic poem discovered in 1945 at the Nag Hammadi Library in Egypt, written 2.000 years ago from the perspective of a divine female figure — wild, elusive, and deeply evocative.

Cellist Maya Fridman teams up with renowned international musicians with colorful backgrounds, such as Efrén López, Soheil Shayesteh, Ruven Ruppik, and Kristia Michael. Kristia, from Cyprus, brings a haunting vocal presence rooted in Greek-Cypriot traditions. Soheil adds a refined melodic layer with Persian kamancheh and live electronics. Efrén, a master of plucked and bowed string instruments, draws on Greek, Turkish, and Andalusian sounds to shape his music. Ruven anchors the ensemble with grooves that echo the shared pulse of Mediterranean cultures. Flamenco dancer Conchita Boon adds a powerful, physical layer to the performance, connecting music and movement with her expressive dance.

Together, they create a soundscape that is both ancient

and new — a rich tapestry of flamenco, Byzantine chant, Middle Eastern modes, and contemporary composition.

Maya Fridman: *"It has long been a wish of mine to create a project with Efrén López. In 2015, I was invited to join the German pagan folk band FAUN as a special guest. As a multi-instrumentalist and composer, he was joining that tour as a guest player. For three weeks, I listened to him practicing enchanting Greek, Persian, and Turkish melodies, effortlessly moving between instruments like the oud, hurdy-gurdy, and saz. His deep understanding of these traditions was mesmerizing and inspired me immensely. He doesn't just bring not this Mediterranean musical traditions into practice, 'he lives them', absorbing their essence and channeling it into his own musical language".*

For bookings and more information:

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