

and **SHAKESPEARE**

got Basque



Joxan Goikoetxea

Piano and Accordion

Olatz Prat

Singer

September 21, 2023 — 7:00 pm
University of Nevada, Reno
Hall Recital Hall, Church Fine Arts Building





Joxan Goikoetxea

Piano and Accordion

Joxan Goikoetxea

(Hernani, Gipuzkoa, 1967) is a Basque musician, composer, and producer with 15 recorded works as well as numerous projects and live shows. His artistic journey involves everything from the deepest knowledge of popular and folk forms and expressions to the practice of avant-garde currents and the management of new technologies applied to the different projects that he has led and shared.

Classically trained, he is an eclectic artist who, among many other things, has set Shakespeare's sonnets to music and was a pioneer of *Piazzolla in the Basque Country* in the 1980s. He delved into the fields of root-electronic pairing in the 1990s, and disseminated traditional Basque music throughout different European festivals with the group *Alboka*, in addition to endless collaborations with singers and groups of various generations and conditions.

Artists like Xabier Lete, Paco Ibañez, Bernardo Atxaga, Mikel Laboa, Imanol, Pier Paul Berzaitz, and Antton Valverde have wanted to include the lyrical and personal character of Joxan Goikoetxea's accordion in their tours and works.



Olatz Prat

Singer

Olatz Prat was born in Azpeitia (Gipuzkoa) in 1984. She started to sing before she could speak. In 2002 she began her music career with the band *Zuri & Beltz*, singing jazz standards. Later she won the "Euskadi Gazteako Maketa Lehiaketa" contest with the rock band *Karelean*.

In 2008, the band released the album *56.gelatik*. Olatz was part of the Lantz group created by Mikel Errazkin, approaching the world of contemporary folk. Lantz released the album *Igaran Gaiak* in 2017. In 2013, Olatz joined the vast project "SDB – Sortuko Dira Besteak," directed by musician Joxan Goikoetxea. In 2014, she participated in Zeru "Horren infernuak — Shakespearearen sonetoak" (Shakespeare's Sonnets in Basque).

Collaborations and performances over the years make up the ongoing career of this singer. Olatz Prat has worked as a journalist on several projects for Hitza, Ortazar, EITB (Basque Public Television). She also has translated for the Literatura Unibertsala collection: *Dreams in a Time of War: A Childhood Memoir* (2010) by Ngugi wa Thiong'o (Gerra garaiko ametsak).



Joxan and Olatz's paths converged in 2013, in the "Sortuko Dira Besteak" project. Since then, they have offered several performances together, spreading the music and poems of the Basque Country around the world—and bringing the world into Basque, Shakespeare's Sonnets, among others.