

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Duo Jetté to Appear in Famed FIC in 2026**

**Festival Internacional Cervantino**  
**Dates:** 2026

## **Duo Jetté Brings French Baroque Music to Guanajuato Mexico** **Sister City of Ashland Oregon sends Duo Jetté on a Journey of Friendship**

**Iglesia de \_\_\_\_\_ in Guanajuato Mexico, October of 2026**

### **Duo Jetté to Debut at the Festival Internacional Cervantino, Guanajuato 2026**

Duo Jetté will present a program of French Baroque Music on two Bass Violas da Gamba, featuring works by Couperin, Marais, Forqueray and others. While this marks the duo's **debut performance in Mexico**, **Pat O'Scannell** is no stranger to the **Festival Internacional Cervantino (FIC)**. Between 2000 and 2007, her Ashland-based ensemble, **Terra Nova Consort**, worked with Guanajuato's own **Los Tiempos Pasados** in what became a seven-year partnership, combining recordings, live performances, and cultural exchange. Now, Duo Jetté makes its long-awaited debut in the heart of Guanajuato, bringing their rare, rich sound to this prestigious festival.

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## **About Duo Jetté**

Duo Jetté combines virtuosity and experience to create a single voice both moving and well balanced in two seasoned players. Michal Palzewicz and Pat O'Scannell bring their combined musical acumen to bear on a repertoire of breadth and subtlety. The rich and almost transparent timbres of the instruments combine to create one voice of lyrical and winding expressiveness. Centering their attention on works written specifically for the French seven-string viola da gamba, the unique combination of lyra style, sweeping chords, and the rhythmic drive of music for an instrument that is related to such instruments as the guitar and lute. Bowed with an underhand grip, the instrument has frets producing a very different timbre from modern orchestral strings. Truly an experience that will transport you in time and place.

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[Duo Jetté Audition DEMO](#)  
[Download Press Packet](#)

## Duo Jetté Additional Biographical Information:

### For Immediate Release:

Duo Jetté, a group based in Ashland, Oregon, is set to perform French Baroque music composed for the two seven-string bass violas da gamba during the 2026 season of the renowned Festival Internacional Cervantino in Guanajuato, Mexico. The duo, made up of Michal Palzewicz and Pat O'Scannell, will be making their debut at the festival. However, Pat O'Scannell is no stranger to Guanajuato, having previously performed with the Mexican ensemble Los Tiempos Pasados in the early 2000s. From 2000 to 2007, she also brought her own group to the festival, collaborating on recordings and live performances, including a memorable visit to Ashland's Sister City in 2006 by the Los Tiempos Pasados ensemble.

Duo Jetté will present works composed specifically for the French seven-string bass viola da gamba, featuring iconic composers such as Marin Marais, Antoine and Jean-Baptiste Forqueray, François Couperin, and August Kühnel—a German virtuoso and composer who embraced the French style. A key feature of their performance will be the use of the 'Lyra Viol' technique, which involves bowing or plucking chords, evoking the gamba's origins as a fretted instrument related to the lute and early guitar. Played with an underhand bow grip, this technique places the strong beats on an up-bow, which contrasts with modern string playing.

The bass viola da gamba is typically played without vibrato, reserving this ornament for elongating long notes. Its shimmering, transparent tone is often compared to the human voice, with a subtle expressiveness conveyed through articulation rather than a wide dynamic range. Tuned at 415 Hz—about a half step lower than modern pitch (440 Hz)—the gamba adheres to Baroque tuning. Unlike modern 'Equal Temperament,' which equalizes the distances between all notes, Baroque tuning follows 'just intonation,' perfecting intervals like octaves, fourths, and fifths, and features 'mean tone thirds,' a bit lower than our modern ear is accustomed to. This system allows for richer, purer harmonic intervals that create the gamba's distinct sound.

The program includes suites of French Baroque dances, and more expansive movements such as Preludes, Fantasias and Chaconnes. With the added low 'A' string, the seven string French bass viola da gamba is fitted out perfectly to provide its own chords and bass parts, or 'basso continuo' within a single part, or split between two parts. Other pieces present two equal lyra viol voices. All require a certain virtuosity, and employ the trills, mordents and other ornaments emblematic of the style.

Don't miss the opportunity to hear these rarely heard instruments playing a genre of music that is both intimate, and evokes emotionality with its innate lyricism, and subtle shifts in timbre. The French were innovators in this style, adding the seventh string by gamba composer-virtuoso Msr. Saint-Colombe.

The gamba is played mostly without vibrato, which is used in the manner of an ornament to warm long notes. It has a shimmery and transparent sound that is often likened to the human voice. Without a wide dynamic range, the gamba relies on articulation for its expressiveness. It is tuned at 415, 'baroque tuning', and about a half step lower than 440, or modern pitch. The tuning is not in 'Equal Temperament', but instead adheres to a system of 'just intonation', which

assures perfect tuning of the perfect intervals: octaves, fourths and fifths, and features 'mean tone thirds', a bit lower than our modern ear is accustomed to. In short, it is a system that makes tuning close to perfect in certain related keys, but the farther you move away from these keys, the more out of tune the scale.

This is in contrast to the 'Equal Temperament' to which our ears have become accustomed, and in which every note is distanced equally from every other, and are therefor all slightly out of tune. The purity of the ringing fourths and fifths, octaves and unisons is part of what allows the gamba to ring and be heard.

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Pat O'Scannell quote: "This is a far cry from the large scale works by Vivaldi, Telemann, Scarlatti and Lully, and is as intimate as the others are high-flown. Pared down to two parts, the instruments dance, frolic, and cry plaintively with equal success. One of the foremost instrumental voices of the French Baroque era, it died out only as orchestras increased in size, making the gamba unable to be heard within the context of the larger group, and its frets made it difficult to tune with the fretless violin family."

Contact MUSICA MATRIX for booking: [www.musicamatrix.org](http://www.musicamatrix.org)

Link to Duo Jetté Demo: <https://youtu.be/8AKxy7D-xiw?si=qPvNiHTJgnJxrvYd>

### **Quotes:**

"My wife and I were fortunate to attend a concert by Duo Jetté recently. What a treat, both outstanding musicians took us on a journey of viol music from the seventeenth and eighteenth century. We really appreciated the amount of energy each performer put into creating a pallet of affections, emotions, and dreamfulness."

- Stephen Bacon, Luthier, Proprietor of Bellwood Luthiers in Ashland OR.

## Sample Radio Announcements:

1. JPR recognizes the non-profit community support of Musica Matrix. Musica Matrix has been "Bringing history to life through music" for almost a decade, producing over 35 concerts of historic music performed on authentic instruments. On Friday, June 21 Musica Matrix and the Jefferson Baroque Orchestra present DUO JETTÉ, Folie d'Espagne, in a concert of French Baroque music. Featuring Pat O'Scannell and Michael Palzewicz, the . . .

The concert takes place in the Crystal Room at Ashland Springs Hotel. Performance begins at 7pm. Tickets by reservation only. More at [musicamatrix.org](http://musicamatrix.org)

2. MUSICA MATRIX is "Bringing history to life through music" again, this time with a concert of French Baroque music: L'aube des Lumieres (LOBE duh loo-MARE) with Ashland's own viola da gamba duo: Duo Jetté. (duo Zseh-tay like Zsa Zsa Gabor)

The House Concert is within walking distance of downtown Ashland, and takes place on:

Sunday, June 15th at 1pm, doors opening at 12:30

Reservations are \$25, and may be paid at the door by cash, check or card.

For more information, please write [pato@homeinashland.net](mailto:pato@homeinashland.net)

The address will be given when you place your reservation.

Join us for an intimate concert of the highly nuanced and sophisticated music of the French Baroque era.

The program features composers specializing in virtuosic works for the bass seven-string gamba, such as Antoine and his son Jean-Baptiste Forqueray (FOR-ker-ay), both virtuosos, both composers, Marin Marais, another gamba virtuoso, and Françoise Couperin, famous for larger works as well, but fond of the smaller more delicate forms such as these suites of dances.

All of this contemporary with the Dawn of the Enlightenment, with musical forms that embody the movement towards Humanism, an emphasis on the individual, reason, and the pursuit of human happiness.

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