



SONIDO makes music. Music from Latin America Some born and all raised from a young age in Sydney, Australia, the members of **SONIDO** are influenced by the music of their home, as well as the poetry, sounds and rhythms of their heritage. The product is a unique form of Latin American-infused musical expression forged in the crucible of their families' immigrant experience in 1970s & 80s Australia.

SONIDO began its life as Sonido de los Andes in 1977, when a group of young émigrés began performing traditional music of the Andes using instruments such as the charango, quena, zampoña, bombo and guitar. Their virtuosity and dedication found a wider audience than they expected, extending beyond their fellow South American immigrants to Australians of all cultural backgrounds, and the group became a standard bearer for dissemination of cultural traditions from “home” in a new home. They also inspired a new generation of cultural torchbearers, with their children (literal and figurative) forming many music and dance groups over the 80s, 90s and beyond, ensembles with roots in Latin America and branches in Australia.

This renewal culminated in the 90s when Sonido de los Andes became **SONIDO** and a new generation of musicians took the mantle of preserving traditions from their parents' birthplaces, whilst injecting new influences that came from an upbringing in a very different culture. Though still firmly rooted in the folklore of South America, the group began to incorporate rhythms and instruments from further afield in Latin America, as well as from the Western pop, rock, soul and jazz that they grew up listening to.

The subsequent 20 years saw the musicians of **SONIDO** embark on a variety of other projects, in a wide array of musical styles and collaborating with artists from around the world. However, the draw of **SONIDO** was never far away and the group would periodically reconvene to perform concerts for fans, new and old, in Sydney.

Today **SONIDO** is focused on distilling the influences and experiences of over 40 years into a very distinct form of artistic expression. One that reflects adolescent summers spent on cricket and Andean music, of playlists that include Illapu, Irakere and The Isley Brothers, of marvelling at the songwriting prowess of Silvio Rodriguez and Victor Jara as much as Paul Kelly and Nick Cave. It is a music born of a love for their home, awe for their heritage and respect for the sacrifices of their parents' generation that risked it all, voluntarily or by force, to build a new life in a strange place.

Between 2020 and 2022 **SONIDO** wrote and recorded their first album of original music since the mid-1990s, called 'global'. The band has played this new music over many sellout shows in Sydney to great acclaim, including CD and digital release launch events through 2022 and 2023. 'global' is a marker of **SONIDO**'s journey in creating a unique sound that enraptures audiences of all backgrounds.

It is traditional music of a place on no map, a folklore in search of a country.

Review of 'global' by Cameron Undy (Music Artist/Curator)

"If you've ever been to a SONIDO performance, you will know how deep the traditions of Latin musical culture run. The group was partly founded by the father of brothers, Cesar and Steve Marin in 1977, when they emigrated from Chile. The power of this music emanates from deep connections between cultures as well as individuals who have known each other their whole lives and been performing around Australia for the last three decades. But the music isn't just bound by tradition. Their original compositions embody the essence of Australian life and this sets them apart.

The musicianship is of a supremely high standard but generated through love, compassion and community, rather than individual virtuosos standing out amongst others.

This unity is heard in the sublime intonation of the vocal harmonies, the phenomenal interwoven pocket rhythms played on the zampoñas and quenenas (panpipe and flute) and the synchronisation of complex yet flowing danceable grooves played on guitars/strings of all kinds, charango, cuatro and percussion of bombo, cajon, congas and more.

SONIDO is a human musical expression at its most beautiful extreme. Brilliantly captivated in this new album release: global."

Website: www.sonido.net.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sonido.au>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/sonido_au/

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/SonidoSydney>

Spotify: https://open.spotify.com/artist/3UeUlwJDBVjifTL16SmcOC?si=6ITi4aHbRJO9H_CGQMKVQ

Apple Music: <https://music.apple.com/us/artist/sonido/1583924698>