

# "Echoes of the Basque Homeland"

A Night of Music at the Reno Tahoe International Art Show

Garikoitz Mendizabal, a highly accomplished txistu player from the Basque Country, has achieved remarkable success in both solo and ensemble performances. He clinched first place in the Basque Country Solo Competition for Txistu Players in 1994 and 1996. In 2002, he led the Gasteiz Municipal

Txistu Ensemble to victory in the Competition for Txistulari Bands held in Errenteria. His leadership extended to the Bilbao Municipal Txistu Ensemble since 2004.

Garikoitz's musical journey is illustrious, featuring collaborations with prestigious orchestras including the Basque National Orchestra,

Bilbao Symphony Orchestra, Navarre Symphony Orchestra, and more, in renowned venues like the Euskalduna in Bilbao, the National Auditorium in Madrid, and the Liceo in Barcelona. He has an extensive discography encompassing various genres, from classical and traditional music to Celtic and jazz, collaborating with esteemed artists such as Carlos Nuñez, Kepa Junkera, and others. One of his remarkable achievements is the groundbreaking "TXISTU SYMPHONIC," where he played alongside the Basque Symphonyc orchestra. In 2022, he recorded "GUTIZIA," a double CD as a soloist with the Basque Symphonic

Orchestra. Currently, he is a member of the Basque parliament and also an esteemed member of the Royal Basque Society of Friends of the Country.



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## A Night of Music at the Reno Tahoe International Art Show

Music recital of the Reno Tahoe International Art Show in cooperation with the Center for Basque Studies of the University of Nevada, Reno.

**Place:** Reno Convention Center

**Date:** Saturday, September 14th

**Time:** 6-7 PM

"Echoes of the Basque Homeland" is a recital that promises to transport you to the rugged landscapes, vibrant traditions, and rich history of the Basques.

The recital will feature Garikoitz Mendizabal, an exceptionally skilled txistu player from the Basque Country. Through a selection of carefully curated pieces, you will experience the essence of Basque music, with its distinctive themes, rhythms, tones, and melodies.

The txistu, esteemed as one of the most ancient musical instruments known to humanity, offers a captivating window into the depths of musical history.



Its origins can be traced to Prehistory, with the earliest known txistu having been discovered in the Izturitz Cave. Remarkably, this instrument was fashioned from the ulna bone of a vulture. Dating back to the Aurignacian period of the Upper Paleolithic era, approximately 38,000 to 28,000 years ago, the txistu's antiquity is awe-inspiring. This instrument, designed with three holes, possesses a unique feature—it can be played with a single hand, leaving the other free for percussion accompaniment.