



*texu* are a powerful modern three-piece blending celtic traditions from three different cultures with exciting new-age influences. *texu* (pron. tèshù) is derived from the name of a famous ancient tree in Asturias (north-west Spain) which the locals call the *texu de bermiego*. The similarities that can be drawn between trees and music have inspired the name - in this sense *texu's* music is deeply rooted in the traditions of Ireland, England and Asturias, having grown with time and friendship to create a solid foundation upon which their original songs and tunes flourish with electronic fusion-elements in its crown.

Borja (Asturies, Spain), Mark (Birmingham, UK) and Brian (Ireland/Germany) have all spent their musical and personal lives crossing borders, to live in other parts of the world where their respective musical traditions have become havens of home. This is part of the founding connection that created *texu*. Getting to know their music from “abroad” has enriched the music by the freedom of playfully creating and adding modern electronic sounds, unconventional compositions and a new-born approach that makes the music fun to listen, dance and play to.

The catchingly-potent sound of Borja's asturian Gaita is a driving force in *texu's* sound - firmly standing on a strong foundation made from Mark's traditional-inspired groove on modern sounding drums that sit perfectly with Brian's drone-to-jazzy guitar and bass. *texu* deliver a respectful and moreover musical take on the diversity of celtic traditional music - captivatingly joyful, relentlessly groovy and uncontrollably danceable!

## the musicians

---

### **Borja Baragaño** - Gaita asturiana, Uilleann Pipes and Wooden Flutes

Borja hails from Asturias, a coastal region in the north of Spain, where the local traditional music and dance culture has a long history. Along with Galicia it's folk tradition shares a common bond with the music and dance traditions of Ireland, Scotland, Brittany and other "celtic" regions.

Aged 4 he began to learn traditional dances and became infatuated with traditional asturian music and subsequently went on to learn the asturian Gaita few years later. Embedded in this vibrant culture, Borja became more and more active by playing in local *bandas de gaita* (pipe bands) and partaking in pipe competitions. An interest in Irish music extended his musical scope and added the Uilleann Pipes and flutes to his array of instruments, which he is equally masterful on today.

He has, and still does play in Asturias with several folk bands such Llangres, DRD, Acuúi, Felpeyu, Llan de Cubel, all of whom he recorded CDs with and toured extensively to help show asturian music to all corners of the world.

In 2014 he recorded his solo album, "Where I could go", with a bunch of asturian musicians. For more information visit [www.borjabaragano.com](http://www.borjabaragano.com) .

---

### **Mark Bloomer** - Drums and Vocals

Mark is a multi-instrumentalist from the Black Country around Birmingham in England. His musical career began as a drummer in the Indie and Psychodelic Punk scene, joining bands like Drop and Bablyon Zoo, both touring and achieving national success, the latter going on to land an international number one hit. He left the UK to travel into the unknown and discover new musical horizons, taking him on a spiritual trip through Europe, parts of Asia and the US. Eventually landing in Ireland on an extended living stay, he developed a strong connection and passion for celtic music, soon making himself a popular session guitarist on the traditional music scene around Cork. Further travels took him to Germany where he met his wife and now resides with his family. Nowadays he is best known as one half of award-winning Folk Roots duo Broom Bezzums, where he has developed into singer with a much-loved style of songwriting, keeping the tradition of english worker and protest songs alive and strong. A listen at [www.broombezzums.com](http://www.broombezzums.com) is well worth a visit, with the latest of their 5 studio albums taking an important german national critics award (Deutsche Schallplattenkritik).

## Press info - english

With a burning desire to play the drums waiting to be re-awakened, he jumped onboard with Borja and Brian to form *texu* combining his love for traditional Celtic music with the passion for rhythm and experimental sounds.

---

### **Brian Haitz** - Guitar, Bass, Vocals and Electronics

With one half hailing from the german/french border and the other half from north-side Dublin (Ireland), Brian is another expert in border-crossing, musically and personally. His irish father was an avid promoter of Irish music and culture after moving to the continent in the 80's, creating a vibrant musical environment that Brian grew up in. Starting on whistles and flutes as a young kid, he later picked up the guitar (dadgad tuning) and soon became fully engulfed in irish music, touring english folk festivals and some continental ones with a raw and edgy trio named "Choonz", that the worlds largest buskers festival *Ferrara* labeled "musical wizards". The later all-german irish music band "Cosán" recorded an album to critical acclaim. He went on to do a BA in music production and become a full-time musician teaching various instruments. His live career luckily landed him on stage with more musicians such as Paddy Keenan and Alan Doherty and later Rüdiger Oppermann, Germany's world music guru.

With one feet firmly set in traditional folk music, his second love is the art of fusing it with modern electronic elements, adding not just a drone-to-jazzy style of guitar accompaniment but also venturing into samples and effects for *texu*.