

PENINSULA



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BIO
2026

PENINSULA

Monterrey, Nuevo León, México

Formed between Canada and Mexico and now based in Monterrey, **Peninsula** is an independent bilingual band creating immersive music that moves between cinematic indie rock, atmospheric art rock, post-pop, and experimental folk music. Their work is rooted in emotional honesty, layered arrangements, and an ongoing exploration of connection, uncertainty, and human experience.

Founded in 2011 by guitarist **Javier Arizpe** and bassist **Rosalie Eva** in St. Catharines, as a long distance project with drummer **Iván Medrano** in Monterrey, the band eventually relocated to Mexico in 2014 and began recording their first EP the following year. These early years saw collaborations with various musicians including **David Zamora**, **Billy Marín** (Era de Oro) and **Daniel García** (Los Haters). Guitarist **Ray Medellín** (Mannequin) eventually joined the band in 2020, bringing unique soundscapes now distinctive to Peninsula.

Since its beginnings, Peninsula has developed a reputation for emotionally charged live performances that move naturally between intimacy and intensity — blending melodic songwriting, textured guitars, piano, synthesizers, rhythmic experimentation, and dual vocal interplay in both English and Spanish.

The band made its Canadian debut at *In the Soil Arts Festival* in 2014 with guest drummer **Brian Foster** (The Regards, The Northern Arm) and has since toured extensively through Mexico and Canada, including Canadian tours in 2017, 2025, and 2026, as well as a Japan tour in 2023. Their performances have taken place in concert halls, theatres, art galleries, music festivals, DIY venues, and independent cultural events, cultivating meaningful connections across international underground music communities. Peninsula has also developed an ongoing musical exchange with Niagara Falls-based band **A Sea of Gold & Burgundy**, with the two bands touring together in both Canada and Mexico since 2025.

Peninsula's EP "*Balance*" (2016), recorded by **Rafael "Rafonk" Rodriguez** (Supermístico Fantasma), introduced a sound characterized by emotional subtlety and experimental structure. Their second EP "*Human Feels*" (2018), recorded by **Israel Zacarías**, with mixing and mastering by **Rusty Santos** (Animal Collective, Panda Bear), introduced a synth pop flavour in tracks like "*Stay*." Exploring new structures, their sound evolved into the conceptual bilingual album "*Constellations/Constelaciones*." Recorded and produced in collaboration with **Israel Zacarías**, with mixing by **Carlos Rojas** / ROT Producciones and **Eduardo Torruco** (Volovan, Panteón Roccocó), and mastering by **John Davis** (Metropolis Studios - Gorillaz, The Killers), the album was released as monthly singles during 2019. "*Constellations/Constelaciones Remixes*" (2021) brought together 13 different artists and producers from around the world, including **Rusty Santos** (USA), **Chetes** (Zurdok, Vaquero), **Israel Zacarías**, **Era de Oro**, **Eusebio Sánchez**, **Donlagrima**, **Dear B**, **Rafonk**, **Pirámides** (Mexico), **Pet Heads**, **Tausendeck** (Canada), **Martín Grant** (Argentina), and **Kind Sugi** (Venezuela).



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Peninsula's second LP "Hilo Conector" (*Connecting Thread*) is a multidisciplinary performance combining music, contemporary dance, narrative sequencing, and cinematic imagery. Following a full year of composition and production, it was brought to life on stage at Teatro Dramático in Monterrey in November 2022. The live performance was recorded and mixed by **Jacob Rilo** (InfrarrojoMx), mastered by **Jaime Cavazos** (Los Ángeles Azules, División Minúscula), with video edition by **Gabriela Ríos** (InfrarrojoMx) and released *exclusively* on YouTube in July 2023 as an audiovisual experience, a daring decision in world that demands all access streaming.

In 2024, Peninsula launched their creative series "*Punto de Encuentro*" (Meeting Point), exploring the spontaneous composition of music, a creative challenge where the band enters the studio with no preconceived ideas—no songs, no melodies, no lyrics—only a collection of instruments and an open mind. The result was "*Epistemología*," written, produced, and recorded live in studio with **Israel Zacarías** at *Zac Records* in Monterrey. The series also included singles "Friendship 友情," recorded in Tokyo with **Yui Kimijima** at *Tsubame Studio*, and "Propaganda," whose animated video by Japanese artist **Izumi Tanaka** was screened at animation festivals in Croatia (*Supertoona*) and the Czech Republic (*Anifilm*) and featured in the promotional trailer for the 2024 Silhouette International Festival in Paris alongside **Fontaines D.C.** and **Squid**.

In July 2026, Peninsula released their third LP "Sin Resolución," an atmospheric art rock album shaped by tension, uncertainty, and emotional complexity. The bilingual album reflects on unresolved questions — personal and collective — exploring themes of frustration with social structures, loss, transformation, and the persistent search for connection. The album was recorded across multiple locations in Mexico and Canada, including *Zac Records* in Monterrey (**Israel Zacarías**), *Some Other Planet Studio* in Saltillo (**Eduardo Torruco**), and *Bridge District Concert Hall* in Welland (**Peter Haverkamp**). Mixed and mastered by **Eduardo Torruco**, the album is also available on 180-gram black vinyl, with mastering by **Dave Polster** and lacquer cutting by **Clint Holley** (Well Made Music), produced by **Precision Record Pressing** in Canada. Its visual concept — a hand holding a lit Mexican paloma firework — reflects the album's central theme of suspended tension, uncertainty, and the possibility of an explosive outcome. The album includes "Pilares" featuring **A Sea of Gold & Burgundy**'s signature harmonies, and "*Human Race*," a reflective ballad added to Spotify's editorial "*Novedades Rock*" playlist on release day.

Peninsula continues to build independently through self-produced recordings, international collaborations, DIY touring, visual media projects, and a strong commitment to artistic community and cross-cultural connection between Canada and Mexico.



PENINSULA

RELEASES

- **Balance** EP 05.2016
- **Human Feels** EP 11.2018
- **Constellations/Constelaciones** LP 06.2020*
**Released as monthly singles during 2019*
- **Constellations/Constelaciones Remixes** 01.2021**
***Released as monthly singles during 2020*
- **Hilo Conector** Audiovisual Album 07.2023
***Exclusively available on YouTube*
- **Punto de Encuentro** EP (released as Singles):
 - Epistemología** 01.2024
 - Friendship** 02.2024
 - Propaganda** 03.2024
- **Sin Resolución** LP 07.2026

PRESS

Mexiquense Radio 02.2026
Niagara Falls Review 06.2025
Mexiquense Radio 05.2024
Monterrey Rock 08.2023
María Letona 08.2023
Headbangers LATAM 07.2023
Indie Rocks 10.2022
Rolling Stone Mexico 08.2021

COLLABORATIONS

- **Human Feels** EP 11.2018: "Love Triangle" featuring Bass recorded by Charly Castro (Jumbo, Buffalo Blanco)
- **Constellations/Constelaciones Remixes** 01.2021: Remixes produced by: Rusty Santos; Era de Oro; Martín Grant; Israel Zac; Donlagrima; Eusebio Sánchez; Pet Heads; Chetes; Dear B; Kind Sugi; Rafonk; Tausendeck; Pirámides.
- **Sin Resolución** LP 07.2026: "**Pilares**" featuring A Sea of Gold & Burgundy

BAND

Iván Medrano : Drums, Beats, Synth
Javier Arizpe : Guitar, Vocals
Ray Medellín : Electric Guitar
Rosalie Eva : Bass, Piano, Synth, Vocals

CONTACT

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"Península seeks to change the game, a counter-cultural strike that arrives to shatter conventions and push beyond boundaries. A way to make music tangible: ephemeral in a sense, yet eternal in memory."

-Marco Villatoro, Indie Rocks Mx

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HIGHLIGHTS

WHAT MAKES PENINSULA UNIQUE

Two Languages, One Voice

Peninsula writes and performs in both English and Spanish, moving between languages naturally rather than treating them as separate sides of the project. The result is a sound that reflects the band's lived connection between Canada and Mexico.

A Band Shaped by Two Music Communities

Canada and Mexico are not simply places the band has toured — they are part of Peninsula's creative identity. The band has built ongoing relationships with independent musicians and venues in both countries, including their continued collaboration with Niagara Falls-based *A Sea of Gold & Burgundy*.

Music That Extends Beyond the Song

Peninsula has always been interested in where music meets other forms of expression. *Hilo Conector* was released as a complete audiovisual album exclusively on YouTube, while projects such as "Propaganda" have brought the band's music into animation and international film-festival spaces.

A Truly Cross-Border Creative Process

Peninsula's recordings have involved musicians, producers, engineers, and artists from Mexico, Canada, and Japan. Their latest album, *Sin Resolución*, was recorded across Mexico and Canada, reflecting the same cross-cultural exchange that shapes their live and creative work.

Independent, but Connected

Peninsula operates independently, building its audience through grassroots touring, collaborations, self-produced projects, independent venues, and direct relationships with listeners. Rather than chasing a particular scene, the band has organically built connections across different communities and countries.

A Live Sound Built on Contrast

Peninsula's performances move between vulnerability and intensity — intimate vocals and piano can give way to layered guitars, atmospheric textures, rhythmic experimentation, and louder, more energetic passages. The result is a show that can feel equally at home in a small listening room, an art space, or a larger concert setting.

Unexpected Places for the Music

Peninsula's work has found its way into spaces beyond traditional music venues, from animation festivals in Croatia and the Czech Republic to a Catamaran release event at Presa La Boca, and from Japanese recording studios to independent arts spaces and theatres across Canada and Mexico.

Notable

- "Propaganda" video animation screened at festivals in Croatia and the Czech Republic
- Featured in promotional material for the 2024 Silhouette International Festival in Paris
- "Human Race" added to Spotify Playlist "Novedades Rock" on release day 10 July 2026

