

# M A D R E

GO DUGONG



WASHÉ

**E m b a r k**


on a trip from

*struggle* to communion

Italian producer **Go Dugong** and Venezuelan musician **Washé** crossed paths in Caracas in December 2022. Their meeting was a stroke of serendipity, bringing together two souls driven by a thirst for the unknown, a yearning for the ethereal, and an **awareness of the transcendental**. Both artists created music inspired by ancient rituals and shamanic chants, but they did not know each other.

**HAPE Collective** brought them together, leading to a collaboration in a Caracas studio and a **transformative journey into the Amazon Forest**, where they challenged each other's perceptions of nature.



A person is walking away from the camera on a narrow dirt path through a dense forest at night. The scene is dark, with the path and surrounding vegetation illuminated by a bright light source, likely a flashlight, which creates a strong contrast between the lit areas and the deep shadows. The person's silhouette is visible against the brighter background of the path ahead.

This is how “**MADRE**” was born - a tribute to the splendor of nature, conveyed through the universal language of music.

**The album explores three stages of awakening:** dissonance, challenge, and symbiosis, symbolizing the arduous path to achieving unity with nature and a sense of togetherness.

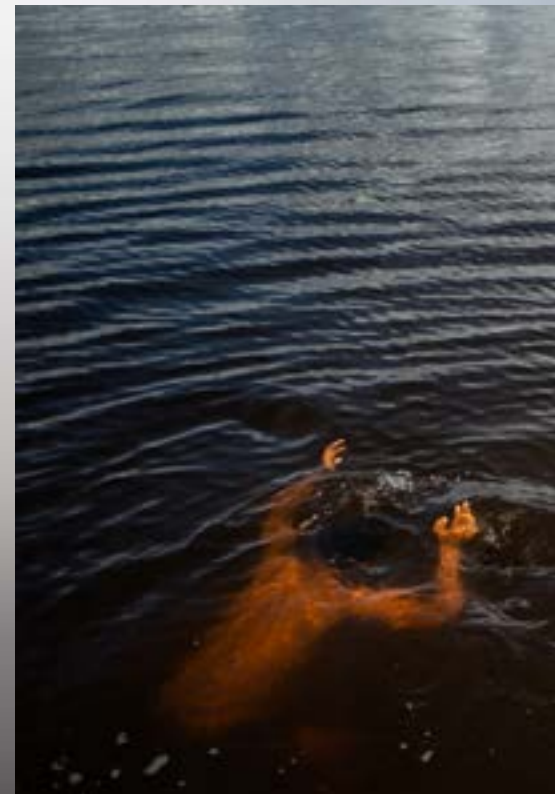
Each stage is marked by its own unique contrasts and characteristics, inviting us on a **journey into the unknown.**

*“The birds don’t sing, they scream in pain”* reveals **Werner Herzog** in his documentary about *Fitzcarraldo*, reflecting on nature’s essence and the eternal struggle for survival. Despite showcasing the harshness and misery of an untamed environment, he admits, *“I love it very much, but I love it against my better judgment.”*

Our existence is defined by interaction, shaped by the perspectives of others—whether human or nature itself. We often find ourselves in a constant struggle, a gap in understanding the world. As **Carlo Rovelli** wrote, *“We are undoubtedly limited parts of nature, and we are so even as understanders of this same nature.”* Nature seems to undermine our reliance on human agency, and we do not always rise to that challenge.



The journey from struggle to communion with nature is arduous. Yet, as **Terence McKenna** said, *“Nature loves courage. You make the commitment, and nature will respond to that commitment by removing impossible obstacles. Dream the impossible dream, and the world will not grind you under; it will lift you up. This is the trick. This is what all these teachers and philosophers who really counted, who really touched the alchemical gold, understood. This is the shamanic dance in the waterfall. This is how magic is done - by hurling yourself into the abyss and discovering it’s a feather bed.”*



## THE CREATIVE ACT

The connection between the power of nature and the interaction with the plastic modern world is represented throughout the album through the blend of **traditional instruments from different ethnic groups of Venezuela**—mainly *Wayuu*, *Uwotjuja*, *Jiwi*, and *Ye'kwana*—and **plug-ins of our digital audio workstations**.

On the one hand, most of the traditional instruments are made of a single piece of wood, skull, or shell: atavistic and apotropaic, **they are nature**. On the other hand, synthesized sounds are **ethereal**, quintessential of our era, and tend to create a sense of tension and opposition. On this album, they both dialogue, fight, and interact in a dialectical dance that joins roots and branches.





“MADRE” was welcomed by great Italian and Venezuelan artists during its creation. We are pleased to include features with **Gerry Weil**, the legendary Venezuelan jazz man; **Miguel Noya**, pioneer of Latin American electronic music; **Khalab**, the Afrofuturistic act of Raffaele Constantino; and **Clap!Clap!**, Italy’s most daring electronic producer.

## T H E T E A M



**GO DUGONG** is an Italian producer, DJ, musician, and cosmic traveler, Giulio Fonseca. A global sound lover, his productions are an intricate patchwork of rhythms, languages, instruments, field recordings, and samples from all over the world that Go Dugong weaves with the passion of a collector and the meticulousness of a craftsman. The result is animated by a global energy in constant evolution.

📷 *godugong*



**WASHÉ** is a musical project directed by researcher Carlos Conde, developed with the support of renowned researchers and direct connections with more than twenty indigenous communities of Venezuela. Founder of Ethco Records and the group Etnoe3, Carlos promotes in all his projects a refined combination of Venezuelan indigenous instrumentation, Afro-Venezuelan drums, and percussion instruments with electronic music.

📷 *washe\_vzla*



**SIMBO** Simbo is a DJ, producer, and founder of **HAPE Collective**. Known for breaking cultural and stylistic barriers, he engaged with global rhythms in Senegal, Cuba, Congo, Laos and Venezuela. In Chad, he founded Pulo NDJ, released on Wonderwheel Recordings. In Venezuela, he has been at the forefront of several artistic projects, including this one.

📷 [simbosounds](#)   📷 [hapecollective](#)



**GUSTAVO VERA**, multimedia documentarian and visual artist, was born and raised in Venezuela. He works as a cinematographer and photographer on projects related to culture, humanitarian affairs, daily life, and social-ecological concerns. A beginner alchemist, he explores photographic alternative processes.

📷 [gustavoavfc](#)



RECORDED in Caracas, Estado Amazonas  
(Venezuela) and Milan (Italy)

Analog Instruments **WASHÉ**  
Digital Instruments and Production **GO DUGONG**  
Mixing and Mastering **TOM FORREST**

Photography and Video Director **GUSTAVO VERA FEBRES-CORDERO**  
Project Coordinator **SIMBO (HAPE COLLECTIVE)**

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