

Mexican Radio - bio (long)

Mexican Radio is a synth punk three-piece with high-energy songs inspired by bands like Cabaret Voltaire, DAF and Stereo Total. They wear brightly-colored uniforms at all times, and their live shows come across like psychotic radio broadcasts from another planet - a relentless onslaught of sinister yet danceable grooves. They also host a monthly radio show on KCRW Berlin called The Mexican Radio Radio Show.

Singers/synth players Nathaniel Fregoso and Dyan Valdés are founding members of critically-acclaimed indie band [The Blood Arm](#). Drummer and singer Hannes Neupert is formerly of Berlin garage band [The Mokkers](#). The three played together in a German-language cover band of [The Fall](#) called Der Sturz, and decided to form Mexican Radio to write their own original music in a post-punk style.

The band take their name from the synthy new-wave [Wall Of Voodoo](#) song "[Mexican Radio](#)," which coincidentally features a sampled recording of Fregoso's late father, a renowned Spanish-language radio presenter.

Destruction / Reconstruction is their second full-length album, coming out on 20 September on R.I.P. Ben Lee Records. Lead single and video "Night of the Nihilist" comes out on 23 August. The songs are dark, heavy, repetitive and high energy, with lyrics inspired by literature and art.

"Night of the Nihilist" was inspired by [Ivan Turgenev](#)'s *Fathers and Sons* and the Russian nihilist movement, specifically referencing the assassination of [Tsar Alexander II](#) in 1881. "2666" references the wave of unsolved brutal murders of women in Ciudad Juárez since the early 1990s that [Roberto Bolaño](#) wrote about in his epic novel 2666. "[Yukio Mishima](#) Suicide" tells the story of the Japanese author's failed coup attempt in 1970 that resulted in his ritualistic suicide, after his *Tatenokai* society tried to restore imperial rule. "Kirchner in the Mountains" is about German *Brücke* artist [Ernst Kirchner](#) trying to use his own art to recover from the brutal trauma of World War I.

Even though all of the songs are about wildly different subjects, they can all be woven together by these threads of "destruction" and "reconstruction" to be part of the same story.

Says Dyan Valdés, "Many people in the songs are trying to do what they think is right for themselves, to build a better world or a better life, but their choices lead them to disastrous results. Most of us can't relate to throwing a bomb at an emperor's carriage, but I think we can all understand that feeling of desperation when you're backed into a corner and the only way out of a situation is to destroy everything around you. That's where 'destruction' comes from. And we also sing about people trying to rebuild after a crisis - that's where 'reconstruction' comes in.



Web: www.mexicanradioband.com
Mail: mexicanradioband@gmail.com

The specifics of these stories are unique, but the survival instinct and human need for hope behind them is something that we can all understand.”

Like the band’s first album *Mexican Radio* (released March 2018), *Destruction / Reconstruction* was recorded completely live to tape in an analog studio in the former East Berlin by renowned Berlin producer Mischkah Wilke (producer of Gurr’s award-winning debut album *In My Head*).

Mexican Radio have played extensively throughout Berlin, including a coveted spot supporting [Franz Ferdinand](#) at Tempodrom, who count themselves among fans of the band.