

**press book**



# Racalmuto Live

An hour and a quarter of music and cinema, with animation short films and fragments of mythical movies such as **Buster Keaton's Steamboat Bill Jr.** or **Yakov Protazanov's Aelita**, considered to be the first russian science fiction film.

Over these images Racalmuto interprets pieces by the **Raymond Scott Quintette**, **John Kirby Sextet** and originals.

The show is seasoned with a large dose of humour thanks to the musicians performance: the presentation of each tune becomes a comical sketch. The argument and some details of the movie are explained in an amusing way.

None of these pieces was composed for the film it accompanies but a common link exists between both of them. Thus, Scott's **Happy farmer** seems to be made specifically for the adventures of farmer **Al Falfa** as a modern day Noah in **Noah's outing**; while **¿Quién quiere un Tornado?** (Who wants a tornado?) could be the logical soundtrack for Keaton's **Steamboat Bill Jr.**

Considering that both the films and the musical pieces have an exact duration, Racalmuto embarks on a circus-like show, where the public holds its breath praying that the artists finish the tune at the same time as the film and don't crash to the floor ...

...It must be said that this only happens on rare occasions.

[www.myspace.com/racalmutocartoons](http://www.myspace.com/racalmutocartoons)





# Movies



## -Bosko Shipwrecked-1931

Producer: Warner Brothers

Director: Hugh Harman/Rudolph Ising

Music: Reckless Nights on Board an Ocean Liner by Raymond Scott

## -Bosko Big Hearted-1932

Prod.: Warner Brothers

Dir.: H. Harman/R. Ising

Music: Siberian Sleighride by Raymond Scott

## -Bosko and Bruno-1939

Prod.: Warner Brothers

Dir.: H. Harman/R. Ising

Music: Powerhouse by Raymond Scott

## -Dough for the Dodo (Porky Pig)-1948

Prod.: Warner Brothers

Dir.: Friz Freleng

Music: The Penguin by Raymond Scott

## -Out of the Inkwell-1920

Produced and Directed by Max Fleischer

Music: Suicide Cliff by Raymond Scott

## -Noah's Outing- 1932

Prod.: Terry Toons

Dir.: Paul Terry

Music: Happy farmer by Raymond Scott

## -Is my Palm Read?(Betty Boop) -1933

Dir. and Prod. by Max Fleischer

Music: Sleepwalker/Snake woman by Raymond Scott

## -Aelita(excerpt)-1924

Dir.: Yakov Protazanov

Music: Le flamboyant M. Igor by Miguel Malla

## -Steamboat Bill Jr. (excerpt)(Buster Keaton)-1928

Dir.: Chas F. Reiner

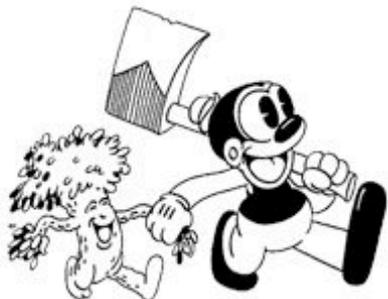
Music: ¿Quién quiere un tornado? by Pascual Piqueras

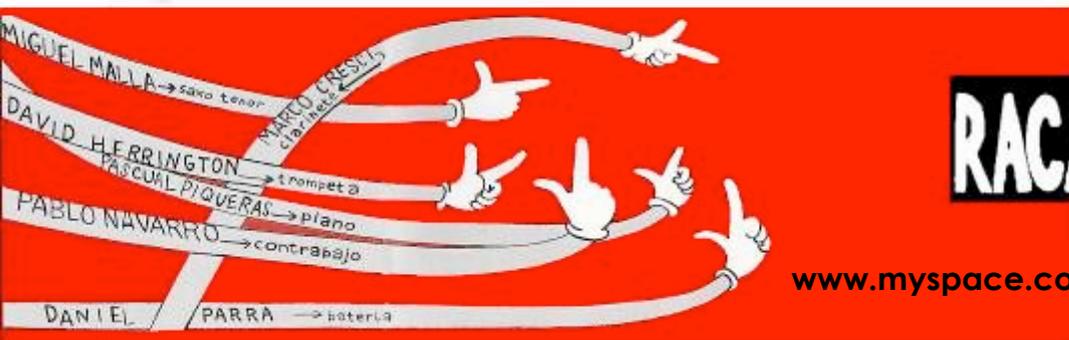
## -A Day at the Races(excerpt)(Marx Brothers)-1937

Prod.: Irving Thalber

Dir.: Sam Wood

Music: Steeplechase by Raymond Scott





# RACALMUTO

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The Racalmuto sextet is a project dedicated to the recreation of the music by composers **Raymond Scott** and **John Kirby**, with a growing number of original pieces and arrangements by some members of the band. It is (aside from the Dutch band **The Beau Hunks**) the only outfit in Europe currently working this repertoire.

**Kirby's and Scott's** sextets were very popular in their day (mid 1930's), although they also suffered incomprehension and rejection by some critics and musicians.

In their original compositions, Racalmuto has sought to absorb all these influences and to recreate a wonderful music that seems almost to be forgotten these days. **Raymond Scott's** objective was to "write music people would like the first time they heard it," and today it is difficult to find music as sophisticated and yet as amusing as his.

The six musicians have a wide experience in the jazz, pop and classical fields in Spain and have collaborated with artists and bands as diverse as **Barry Harris, Jorge Pardo, Perico Sambeat, Los Panchos, Orquesta de Cámara Reina Sofía, Pierre Boulez, Presuntos Implicados, Los Ronaldos, Orquesta de la Radio de Milán, Nacho Mastretta, Jerry Gonzalez Big Band**, etc.

Racalmuto has recorded various film soundtracks written by Miguel Malla, most notably: **Días de fútbol** ( Soccer Days), **La suerte dormida** ( Sleeping Luck), **Días de cine** ( Cinema Days), **El lunar** ( The spot), **Gente de mala calidad** ( bad quality people). The group also collaborates regularly with the theatre company **Animalario**.

Recently they released their first recording with the independent company **Subterfuge Records** containing pieces by **Scott, Kirby** and six originals.



# Reviews

Madrid-based sextet Racalmuto has released a self-titled CD containing six Raymond Scott Quintette tunes: "Powerhouse," "The Penguin," "Happy Farmer," "Moment Musical," "Steeplechase," and "Square Dance for Eight Egyptian Mummies". The Scott evocations are joyous and brash, mixing nicely with the band's originals and nuggets by Stuff Smith and Charlie Shavers. The Scott covers sizzle with élan. In paying homage to the RSQ tradition, Racalmuto adds inventive touches that surprise and impress. But don't overlook their composer chops: pianist Pascual Piqueras's "¿Quién Quiere un Tornado?" evokes elegant 1930s modernism and classic cartoon jazz (an equally apt description of the original RSQ); and clarinetist Marco Cresci's "Ataque de Celos en Zakopane" conjures a swing-era outer space fantasy."

**Irwin Chusid, director of the Raymond Scott Archives**

"A group, in Madrid, dedicated to playing the double bassist John Kirby's music? It could sound like a joke if it wasn't for the fact that, in effect, the group exists and is called Racalmuto.

Racalmuto also interprets the compositions of Raymond Scott, musician and inventor with a fame for being a visionary. With these materials, the repertoire is different to any other that can be heard today. There are no solos, no blues, it doesn't even seem to be a jazz band, although that's the nearest pigeon-hole. Three minute tunes, played flat-out, Ramones style. And the titles: Square dance for eight egyptian mummies or Confusion Among a Fleet of Taxicabs Upon Meeting With A Fare, pure Dadaism. They also have their own music, not too different from the precedent. They are archaic and at the same time, modern musicians. It's a good thing that they lose respect for jazz and transit the parallel territories that jazzmen tend to ignore."

**J.M. García Martínez, Crítico de El País**



# Press

## EL PAÍS

**Fernando Iñiguez**

“Respecting Scott’s original lineup, Malla and his band bring new energy to this exciting repertoire”

## EL MUNDO

**Luis Lapuente**

Racalmuto's debut is one of those delicious secrets you like to share with people who consider music the most intelligent diversion.”

## REVISTA DT

**Juan Luis Gallego**

“ Racalmuto. The new face of jazz. The six great musicians that form Racalmuto have finally locked themselves in a studio to get a record out. The work shows the ability of this band to rejuvenate jazz, showing its most amusing and freshest side.”

## EP3

**J.M. García Martínez**

“The punkiest and most retro band on the indie scene in Madrid. The funniest you've ever heard. A trip with no side effects.”

## ELOJOCRITICO.NET

**Pedro Galiana**

“ Imagine a typical New Orleans band adapting its sound for a circus act, or the most frenetic scene of a Woody Allen film with a pinch of balcanic rhythmic frenzy. All of this plus cabaret influences, without losing sight of Duke Ellington's jazz...Sheer madness.”



## Line up:

**Miguel Malla** – Tenor sax / Alto sax / Clarinet / Vocals

**Marco Cresci** – Clarinet / Bass clarinet / Vocals

**David Herrington** – Trumpet / Vocals

**Pascual Piqueras** – Piano

**Pablo Navarro** – Contrabass

**Daniel Parra** - Drums

