

LEJOS DE TI (Alex Pertout) 7:05

Magdalena Matthey: vocal

Mayquel Gonzalez: trumpet, flugelhorn

Luke Howard: piano

Alan Plachta: acoustic guitars

William Roblejo: violin

Ben Robertson: acoustic bass

Alex Pertout: bongos, congas, maracas, vibes, pandero, timbales, percussion, loops, synthesizers

PRODUCED BY ALEX PERTOUT

Recorded by Alex Pertout in Melbourne, Australia, Alfonso Peña in La Habana, Cuba, Pedro Villagra in Santiago, Chile and Pablo Butelman in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Mixed by Alex Pertout in Melbourne, Australia. Additional mixing by Alfonso Peña in Madrid, Spain. Additional assistance by Luciano Scaglio.

Mastered by Ted Jensen, Sterling Sound, Nashville, USA

Cover Photograph and Artwork by Julian Alexander Pertout

Typography by Luke Fraser/AHR+

Special thanks to Magdalena Matthey, Alan Plachta, Myquel Gonzalez, Luke Howard, Ben Robertson, William Roblejo, Alfonso Peña, Pedro Villagra, Julian Alexander Pertout, Andrian Pertout, Peter Grech, Luciano Scaglio, Ted Jensen, Chris Grainger, Daniel Goode, Luke Fraser, Graeme Regan and Jessica Trefil.

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With love to Julian Alexander Pertout

alexpertout.com

LEJOS DE TI (Far Away From You) Words and Music by Alex Pertout

"Dealing with heartache and regret, a heartbroken lover, pleads for forgiveness and a second chance, yearning to rekindle a love that feels lost in solitude and time."

Si supieras amor Que sufriendo de impaciencia estoy Infinita ilusión De estar junto a ti

Y si acaso te herí Por favor perdóname amor Acaricia mi piel Dale esperanza, a mi corazón

Lejos de ti Y en soledad Me enloquezco sin tu presencia

Dentro de mi Un río de lágrimas Amargo y triste por tu ausencia

Pienso en ti Y te encuentro en mis sueños una vez más Sigo una estrella fugaz Y anhelo a que vuelvas A amarme otra vez

Estas noches sin fin Solitaria en un camino gris No me dejes sufrir Ven y alumbra, mi corazón If only you knew my love How much I suffer with impatience An infinite longing To be by your side

And if by chance I did hurt you Please forgive me, my love Please come, caress me Give hope to my heart

Far from you And In solitude I am losing my mind without your presence

Within me A river of tears Bitter and sad for your absence

I think of you And I find you in my dreams once more I follow a shooting star And I yearn for you to return To love me again

These endless nights Lonely on a grey path Don't let me suffer any longer Come and light up my heart El tiempo pasa Y no me quiero rendir Amor

La vida cambia Y ya no puedo seguir Amor

Te quiero Ya no te apartes de mi

Perdóname amor Amor

Te quiero Ya no te apartes de mi

Ya no te apartes de mi Amor Time passes
But I don't want to give up

My love

Life changes And I can't go on any longer My love

I love you Don't leave me again My love

Please forgive me my love My love

I love you Don't leave me again

Don't ever leave me again My love

NOTES

Since childhood, *boleros* have captivated me. Their melancholic beauty, their lyrics brimming with raw emotion, their alchemy of transforming heartache into something sublime. My father would often play *Trio Los Panchos*, their vast repertoire filling my teenage years, those melodies became entrenched in touching stories of love and longing. Inspired by my Latin American roots, I begun to study percussion and discovered the wonderful and rich musical soundscape that my vast continent embraces. That first enchantment, alive in me still, decades on.

The recording of my latest album began in Cuba, that inspirational land of boundless musical treasures with my heartfelt *bolero-afro*. In Havana, working with my regular collaborator, highy-regarded engineer Alfonso Peña, we captured the remarkable trumpeter Mayquel González who features prominently in the song, as well as violinist William Roblejo. The journey continued in Buenos Aires, where my friend Alan Plachta contributed his exquisite touch on an array of acoustic guitars, his performance deeply connected to the song's essence. Finally, in Santiago, Chile, with the invaluable assistance of multi-instrumentalist Pedro Villagra, I had the privilege of inviting the outstanding vocalist Magdalena Matthey to take part. She delivered a flawless, stirring interpretation, a stunning performance that brought the melody and lyric to their fullest emotional heights.

Back in Melbourne, Australia, I was joined by my brilliant colleagues, pianist Luke Howard and bassist Ben Robertson, both adding their exceptional artistry to the project. The percussion elements, which I recorded in my own studio, feature a rich tapestry of textures including vibraphone, *bongos*, *congas*, *pandero* and a set of cherished *maracas* with a special significance. Beyond being essential to this rhythmic style, they were purchased by my dear father in the port city of Cristóbal, Panama, as we sailed on our voyage from Chile to Italy aboard the *motonave Giuseppe Verdi* in 1971.

The final mix was completed with further contributions from engineer Peña in Madrid, Spain, while in my own studio, I was assisted by Luciano Scaglio. Legendary engineer Ted Jensen mastered the song at Sterling Sound in Tennessee, USA. The cover artwork features a poignant photograph taken by my son Julian Alexander Pertout, an image that beautifully mirrors the song's emotional core, shot during our time in the stunning coastal city of Viña del Mar, Chile.

May this tender *bolero-afro*, the first musical postcard from my forthcoming album *'Viajes'* (*Travels*), transport you as it does me, through memory's embrace, toward new and inspiring musical horizons.

Alex Pertout May 2025