

# FOOL MOON

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Hungary's No. 1, internationally acclaimed pop acappella group, Fool Moon has an over 15-year history of advocating pop-acappella music – performing pop songs without instruments – in Hungary, which has now resulted in an unprecedented popularity of pop acappella with the Hungarian public. Their witty and entertaining, yet skillful and sophisticated style appeal to the general public as well as to musically trained audiences. Through their TV appearances and their out-of-the-ordinary music lessons and master classes, Fool Moon has brought acappella music to the centre of attention and has fuelled the foundation of a considerable number of acappella groups.

Fool Moon has so far released 6 albums and has been awarded 6 international and Hungarian awards and prizes, and the band has collaborated with many of the most prestigious artists of the Hungarian music scene.

It was also Fool Moon who composed the first original Hungarian pop-acappella hit played across many radio stations nationwide, titled *Kettesben jó*. The song was commissioned for a Hungarian youth film titled *Sherlock Holmes nevében* and was played during the film's end credits in cinemas in Hungary and abroad.

Fool Moon also pioneered as the first acappella group to enter *A Dal*, the Hungarian round of the Eurovision Song Contest, where they came in second with their song *It Can't Be Over*, which placed the band as well as pop acappella in the spotlight in Hungary.

In December 2016, Fool Moon celebrated 15 years of acappella music making with a grand concert in Budapest.

## ALBUMS

Fool Moon released their debut album titled *Stars* (Warner-Magneoton, 2003) featuring their own five part a'cappella arrangements of Hungarian pop hits. Apart from Hungarian songs, the repertoire of Fool Moon includes songs in French, Italian – even Bantu – and a good number of pieces in English: a'cappella versions of songs from artists like Sting, Eric Clapton and Paul Simon. Many of these songs are featured on their 2005 album *Merry Christmas and Acappelland* (MDB Records, 2008).

In 2008, their joint project with *Kriszta Kovács* titled *Arany-óra* was a powerful attempt to press the limits of performing Hungarian literature acappella. In 2012, Fool Moon returned to pop music releasing their album *GeorgeMichaelJackson5*, a collection of their personal favorites of songs from *George Michael*, *Michael Jackson* and *The Jackson 5*.

In December 2012 they went on an advent tour with *Takács Nikolas*, and the album *Music & Soul*, which captured the songs performed in this tour, peaked Hungarian pop charts.

In 2015 the band released a new album, titled *Kettesben jó* featuring 'duets' with top Hungarian singers.

## INTERNATIONAL AND HUNGARIAN AWARDS

In 2005, the band received first prize in pop category at the **Ward Swingle A Cappella Contest** in Graz, one of the most prestigious European contests, which placed Fool Moon among the top a cappella groups in Europe.

In 2006, at the **6th Taiwan International Acappella Contest** the group earned another first place as well as two special prizes, and in 2010, at the italian **Solevoci International Acappella Contest**, they were awarded the prize for best arrangement for their folk song medley titled *Szerelem, szerelem...*

Featured on their album *Acappelland*, this medley also received a nomination for **CARA award** in the category of folk/world music in a truly distinguished collection of competing songs from groups like *King's Singers*, *Neri per Caso* or *Take6*.

In 2013, the Fool Moon album in collaboration with *Takács Nikolas* titled *Music & Soul* received a **Fonogram**

**Prize** nomination.

In 2014 they earned second place in *A Dal*, the Hungarian round of the Eurovision Song Contest.

In 2015, the band received their second **CARA nomination**, this time in the category of *Best Humor Song*, with their song *Hello.tourist!* from *Kettesben jó*.

In 2015, the band was awarded the **Kölcsey-érem (Kölcsey Medal)** by the Cultural Committee of the Local Government of Szeged for their contribution to the cultural life of Szeged. Fool Moon also received the **Best of Budapest** prize.

In 2017 they brought home the first prize from the **1st Moscow Spring Acappella Festival and Contest** featuring 170 vocal groups.

## COLLABORATION

Throughout the 15 years since the band formed, Fool Moon has worked together with the most renowned Hungarian artists including *Presser Gábor* (1 koncert), *Zséda* (Ünnep), *Szolnoki Péter* (Bon-Bon album Dupla élvezet), *Malek Andrea* (Retúr), *Szekeres Adrienn* (Olyan mint te), *Szirtes Edina Mókus* and *Kováts Kriszta* (Arany-óra), *Magna Cum Laude* (Magnatofon) or *Edvin Marton*. In addition, the band took part in the *Eurovision Song Contest* held in Belgrade in 2008 with the Hungarian contestant *Csézy* and also in 2016 in Stockholm with *Freddie*.

## PERFORMANCES

Fool Moon regularly sings at a number of international festivals, in which they have shared the stage with many stars of the international acappella scene (*Rock4*, *Acappella ExpreSSS*, *Vocal Sampling*, *Idea of North*, *Velvet Voices*).

Throughout the past 12 years Fool Moon has performed in 15 countries including Taiwan, Japan, China, Korea, Singapore, Spain, Italy, Germany and the Netherlands.

## CULTURAL ACTIVITY

With the aim of increasing the popularity of acappella music, in 2005 Fool Moon launched the one and only acappella event in Hungary, the *Fool Moon International Acappella Festival* in their home town of Szeged. Inviting vocalists and groups they have met during their performances throughout Europe and beyond, the band has continued to organize this unique festival each Autumn with ever increasing popularity and success.

Since 2002, Fool Moon has given over *250 lectures* on the history of acappella singing throughout Hungary, organized by the Hungarian Philharmonic Society for 6 to 18 year-old students.

## BAND MEMBERS

Mészáros Tamás	– tenor
Molnár Gábor	– tenor
Bence Vavra	– tenor
Wodala Barnabás	– baritone
Németh Miklós	– bass

“AN EXCEPTIONALLY TALENTED GROUP OF SINGERS! PROBABLY ONE OF THE BEST ACAPPELLA GROUPS IN EUROPE RIGHT NOW!”

*Peder Karlson, The Real Group – SWEDEN*

“FOOL MOON WAS AN ABSOLUTE KNOCKOUT... FLAWLESS INTONATION, SPIRITED EXPRESSION, STAGE PRESENCE AND IRRESISTIBLE ARRANGEMENTS! SOON YOU MUST SWOON TO THE TUNES OF FOOL MOON!”

*Kirby Shaw, Arranger – USA*

## PRESS PHOTOS, RIDER, DOWNLOADABLE MATERIAL

<http://www.foolmoon.hu/downloads>

### WEBSITE

<http://www.foolmoon.hu>

### PHOTOS

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/foolmoon>

### VIDEOS

<http://www.youtube.com/foolmoonvocalband>

### DISCOGRAPHY

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/artist/fool-moon/id455124398>

### SOCIAL MEDIA

<http://www.facebook.com/foolmoonvocalband>

<http://www.myspace.com/foolmoonvocalband>

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