



# melon GALIA

## Backgrounder

**Melon Galia** was created in 1995 by two Belgium friends **Thierry De Brouwer** and **Samir Barris** who met at the University of Brussels. They were soon joined by **Frédéric Van Bever** and **Aurélie Muller**.

The quartet quickly polished their sound and began adding a revolving cast of musicians to add an orchestral element to the band (trumpets, trombones, violins, saxophone, etc.). After releasing two independent EPs in the late 90s, they began work on their first full-length CD to be released on France's **Disques Mange-Tout**.

The Mange-Tout label would allow them to meet up with like-minded artists that would help them solidify the sound of their first full-length album "**les embarras du quotidien**". These artists include UK singer-songwriter **John Cunningham** (also on Mange-Tout) and **Bright Eyes** members **Mike Mogis** and **Conor Oberst**. Cunningham would become the producer, Mogis would do the final mix while Oberst would contribute a voice track to Melon Galia's first album.

The album was recorded between April-July 2000 and was first released in Belgium in October 2000. Mange-Tout then continued to release the CD in various other countries throughout Spring 2001 in France, Luxembourg and Switzerland.

The group continued accumulating press in Europe and played live to build a solid following. Some of the key concerts the group got involved with take place at *Francofolies of Spa*, *Festival de Dour*, *Nuits Botaniques* of Brussels, and most notably in Paris nightclubs including *Inaperçus* du Glaz'art.

The group's growing reputation later landed them a Japanese licence in 2001 through Tokyo's Pi-vine Records showing that their French songs had an international touch. In 2002, Melon Galia won a Quebec-Belgium co-government award to promote their music in Canada.

After approaching appropriate Canadian labels to licence "**les embarras du quotidien**", Melon Galia found a quick link with Montreal's **Grenadine Records**. The band wanted more than a French-Canadian deal and thought that their sound would equally appeal to an English-speaking public both in Canada and the United States. This was a perfect match with Grenadine's bilingual and international outlook. Melon Galia's sound was equally appealing to Grenadine as it would be in unison with the label's *Timeless Pop Attitude*.

## Original quartet

**Thierry De Brouwer**  
- voice, guitars, bass, organ, percussion  
**Aurélie Muller**  
- voice, bass, groove box, melodica  
**Samir Barris**  
- drums, percussion, guitars  
**Frédéric Van Bever**  
- guitars

## Touring members

**Catherine De Basio**  
- clarinette, trombone, keyboard, voice  
**Jérôme Bensoussan**  
- trumpet, clarinette, percussion

## "Les embarras du quotidien"

to be released in Canada and the United States early 2003 (Grenadine Records).

## Other discography

1998 - "Vous me quittez déjà" CDep  
1999 - "L'épaisseur d'un cheveu" CDep  
2001 - "Tout le monde d'accord" CDep

## Translations

**Melon Galia**  
- A sweet variety of the Melon family.  
**Les embarras du quotidien**  
- The problems of daily life.

## Press

"...a sound that's sometimes sugar-coated like a summer's day, sometimes melancholy like an autumn rainfall." - **Elle Quebec**

## Contact info



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