



## Matter of rhythm

Iñaki Cerqueira. ULMA Architectural Solutions



*“Seeing people on the other side of the booth enjoying themselves and having a good time with your music is something that fills you with energy and hooks you”*

### OTHER TALENTS AT ULMA GROUP

Many people in the Group make their professional career compatible with very demanding hobbies in which they demonstrate that all obstacles can be overcome with talent and hard work.

**Iñaki Cerqueira, a worker at ULMA Architectural Solutions, began his role as a DJ more than 20 years ago and is currently also a music producer.**

Iñaki Cerqueira, a native of Oñati, has worked at ULMA for almost 21 years. He is a multi-functional operator at ULMA Architectural Solutions, where he moves between the SPE and SPC lines depending on the workload of the Business.

He started out as a DJ in 96, when being a Disc-Jockey was considered something strange, a "geek" thing. It was an activity practiced by very few and it was not entirely well regarded by society ... Most commonly, people who started out in music at that time did so in a punk or rock group. *“Despite what many people believe, being a Disc-Jockey in the 90s was very expensive and you had to make many sacrifices; today, thanks to new technologies, it is much easier and above all cheaper. The Internet has made things much easier,”* he tells us.

This native of Oñati developed a taste for playing music at a very early age. When he was going out he liked to be in the DJ booths and watch them mix records. *“Seeing people on the other side of the booth enjoying themselves and having a good time with your music is something that fills you with energy and hooks you”,* he tells us.

Today Iñaki works more as a music producer than as a Disc-Jockey and spends more time in the studio creating his own music, which he also later uses to mix in sessions, rather than playing at festivals or private parties. His music is recognized worldwide, although as always in these cases, Cerqueira assures us that he is recognized more outside than at home ... Some of the best DJs in the world play his songs; Richie Hawtin, Joseph Capriati, Marco Carola, Stefano Noferini, Adam Bayer, etc ... *“That people of this level play my music is enough recognition for me, it makes me very excited and gives me the strength to continue with it”* he tells us.

He has many anecdotes from his time as a DJ and music producer, but Iñaki fondly remembers one. A few years ago, after a wedding and while he slept, he received dozens of calls and messages ... One of the most famous DJs at the time, Richie Hawtin, was playing his music in Ibiza at one of the biggest parties in the world ... *“And I was sleeping ... When I woke up and found out I didn't believe it, what a rush! It was one of my songs and it started to be played everywhere, it was on social networks...”* he remembers still excited. *“It may be that seen from the outside it is not understood, but those of us who are non-professional producers do these kinds of things that make us continue to work hard without losing an*

*ounce of hope,”* he says.

Latin America's major radio station broadcasted an impressive review of his latest work for his record label, and on 24 April, Iñaki will be playing at the Guggenheim Bilbao, in a nightly music and art programme called “Art After Dark”, all in recognition of his career.

Although recently it is true that DJing has become very fashionable, Iñaki assures us that, to this day, there is still a major lack of knowledge about electronic music, the DJ world and music production and this makes it the butt of lots of jokes. *“I understand that many people do not like our music but each to his own, I guess...”* he concludes.

He has recently become a father, which means he has less free time; however, this does not prevent him from pursuing his hobby and he wants to thank his wife Olatz for her patience and understanding and for her support.