



PRESENTS A FALL CONCERT
AND SPEAKING TOUR BY...

Mario Cardozo

Conscientious Objector and Winner of the 2014
Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Award



The Colombian military has one of the worst human rights records in the world. Rather than addressing root causes of the armed conflict such as inequality, exclusion, and access to land and natural resources, the Colombian state continues to fight violence with violence. One of its main methods is the recruitment of vulnerable, young men from excluded sectors of society forced to serve an obligatory military service, feeding the largest military in all of Latin America.

ACOOOC and Mario Cardozo create alternatives to this reality.



Acción colectiva de objetores
y objektoras de conciencia

ACOOOC (the Collective Action for Conscientious Objectors) develops social, economic and legal alternatives in support of conscientious objection and anti-militarization in Colombia. ACOOC views nonviolent action as a political strategy against the violent and militarized responses that have been historically given. As such, many of the actions they take are collective works created and shared through theater and music.

Mario Cardozo was raised in Soacha, a city on the outskirts of Bogotá with issues of poverty, violence, gangs, and rampant illegal military recruitment. When he was 18, Mario publicly declared himself a conscientious objector. Since then, he has completed political science and law degrees, and in June of 2014 became the **first conscientious objector recognized in Colombia for non-religious reasons**. Mario currently seeks to promote consciousness around and alternatives to Colombian militarism.

Mackia: Art as Resistance – Mario's stage name, 'Makia,' means *lucha* or 'struggle' in Catalan. Since 12 years of age, Mario has used music to communicate, break barriers, and transform the minds of young people who at any moment could arrive at the door of the decades-long war in Colombia.

Check out this video by Mario about his work and the upcoming tour: www.youtube.com/watch?v=tgDWqxEMDHM

We invite you to join us as part of a series of powerful conversations and change.

If you are interested in having Mario speak or perform at a location near you, contact us at info@peacepresence.org

**FOR Peace Presence provides physical safety, political visibility and solidarity by accompanying communities and organizations that embrace active nonviolence defend life, land and dignity, and proudly nominated Mario for the Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Award. ACOOC is an accompanied partner organization.*