

SILVANA MALTA featuring Airto Moreira and Toninho Horta

CÉU DE BRASÍLIA

In Denmark it has been well-known for quite a while, that a Brazilian vocalist resides among us. Far from a novice, Silvana Malta has several wonderful albums to her name, but CÉA DE BRASÍLIA (The Sky Above Brasilia) displays her talent at its very best.

The rest of Europe is well-acquainted with Silvana Malta; especially south of the Pyrenees, where they appreciate Brazilian music dearly. Earlier this year she toured with two legendary Brazilian musicians, guitarist Toninho Horta and percussionist Airto Moreira. The rest of the band included Danish Brazil-specialists: pianist Steen Rasmussen, bassist Torben Westergaard and drummer Jonas Johansen. Prior to touring the band visited Copenhagen's Sun Studio, where they recorded the material for CÉU DE BRASÍLIA.

The music draws on diverse facets of the rich culture of Brazilian music. You will find optimistic songs conjuring images of sunny beaches, poetic and pining notes, sensual tunes and melancholy moods; all interpreted by two of Brazil's very best musicians, three Danes, and not least, the star - Danish/Brazilian Silvana Malta.

When Brazilian music is best, it draws us into the mood - we need not understand the lyrics. The songs speak to us emotionally. This is an art mastered by Silvana Malta. She never exaggerates; with genuine emotion, taste and sensual authority she sends her message straight to the heart.

A Danish resident since 1993, she has championed Brazilian music in our far corner of the north for over ten years. With her own charismatic personality, but true to the proud musical traditions of her homeland, she has sung her way into the hearts of a large following with a voice that has been described as 'a touch of warm sun on your cheek'.

It was a magic moment in Silvana Malta's life when she met the multi-instrumentalist and composer Hermeto Pascoal - a Brazilian Duke Ellington - with whom she recorded an album. The encounter impressed the master as well: he wrote a song for Silvana, a lovely tune, which she has included in the present collection. She did not feel ready to tackle it before now, but here it has been supplied with her own set of lyrics. Other tracks include a piece dedicated to Airto Moreira, compositions by the various band members and by Jobim.

Toninho Horta is considered one of Brazil's most important and influential guitarists and composers. His personal style can be traced in Pat Metheny's development. The title tune, *O Céu De Brasília*, written by Horta, is one of the guitarist's many Brazilian hit tunes. But Horta not only plays guitar on this release, he has also lent a helping hand in the production. He has worked with Silvana previously, and since the 70's he has been a cherished collaborator with Milton Nascimento, Elis Regina, A.C. Jobim, Gal Costa, Joyce and Caetano Veloso. Recent years have seen him working with Herbie Hancock, Elaine Elias, Pat Metheny and Keith Jarrett. Right up to Silvana's recording session he was busy producing George Benson's latest release.

Airto Moreira is the most widely exposed - and still the most famous - percussionist to come out of the 70's. Airto has contributed to making percussion an important element in modern jazz. He lives in USA, where he has played with virtually everybody. A short list would include: Miles Davis, Chick Corea and Return To Forever, Stan Getz and Weather Report. Airto is still one of the world's best and busiest percussionists - it's that simple. It is wonderful to hear him on this pure Brazilian release.

We solemnly promise that CÉU DE BRASÍLIA is special beyond the presence of the two legendary Brazilian musicians. Silvana Malta's voice is like the warm sun on your cheek! Enjoy!

SILVANA MALTA: CÉU DE BRASÍLIA **STUCD 05092, STUNT RECORDS**

Silvana Malta, vocals; Toninha Horta, acoustic and electric guitar, vocals; Steen Rasmussen, piano, keyboards; Torben Westergaard, bass; Airto Moreira, percussion; Jonas Johansen, drums

No Mais, Geraes; Vera Cruz; Didilin; Por Causa De Você; Viver De Amor; Céu De Brasília; Ana Luiza; Mountain Flight; Minha Ratinha/Campeão

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