

# DIEGO FIGUEIREDO

## TEMPOS BONS



Stunt Records  
STUCD 12102  
Distribution DC'Norden



At only 29, Brazilian Diego Figueiredo is already considered one of the world's great guitarists. His story is that of the child prodigy who was first photographed with a guitar at the age of four. At six he received a mandolin, and he went through a succession of various other instruments, before settling down with the guitar at twelve. Soon he was performing locally, and his improvisational and harmonic talent was apparent even at this early stage. At fifteen he was playing in small concert halls and nightclubs either alone or with others. While performing with various Brazilian bands, he was also studying classical guitar and popular Brazilian music and jazz at the conservatory in his hometown Franka and in Ribeirão Preto and Tatuí.

He won his first prize at a contest in South America and received a grant to study at Berklee College of Music. In 2001 Diego Figueiredo received the Visa Award for his performance of "instrumental Brazilian popular music"; and the shower of honors on this modest, but giant talent has never ceased – the first prize at Montreux Jazz Competition is but one example.

These days Diego is accompanist to vocalist and composer Belchior on tours of Brazil and abroad. He has played with Hermeto Pascoal, Sebastião Tapajós, Osvaldo Montenegro, Jair Rodrigues, Toquinho Horta, Tunai, Paulinho da Viola, Moraes Moreira, Fafa de Belém, Amelinha, Zeca Baleiro and other prominent Brazilian musicians. But he is also known outside South America, and he tours most of the world as a soloist. He is famous for his technique as well as his sensitive interpretations of South American, classical and jazz music. He is often compared with Baden Powell, Helio Delmiro and Joe Pass. After hearing his set at the Montreux Jazz Festival, George

Benson exclaimed, "Diego is the best guitarist I've ever heard!" Pat Metheny was equally impressed, and spoke of magic moments. Next time he visits Brazil, he says he will insist on playing with Diego.

Diego has released several albums, including DADAIÓ, recorded in Copenhagen with bassist Rodolfo Stroeter and legendary drummer and percussionist Robertinho Silva, and released on Stunt Records. The Danish critic Henrik Palle gave the CD six out of six possible stars, calling it "a lovely dream of a record... enticing and enchantingly show-offish", tying up his review with the following statement: "contagious joy in portions large enough to make it damn hard to keep a winter depression alive". His newspaper, Politiken, placed DADAIÓ among the year's ten best albums.

With TEMPOS BONS, Stunt Records continues its collaboration with Diego Figueiredo. The compilation includes solo guitar selections recorded in Brazil, a trio recording, and three songs with the charming French vocalist Cyrille Aimée, with whom Diego has celebrated long, triumphant American tours. The repertoire on this compilation is varied: the Brazilian mainstay is spiced with a few jazz standards and a wonderful French song, originally made famous by Charles Trenet.

While Brazilian music abounds with talent, very few new names appear on the current scene. Thus, it is with great pleasure that Stunt Records presents this compilation with the sparkling new star of the guitar.

Enjoy the good times – TEMPOS BONS – with Diego. Sensitive and lyrical musical postcards from genuine and imagined landscapes, where melody and rhythm go hand in hand with youthful creative prowess in joyous and sensual music.

*Na Baixa Do Sapateiro / El Colibri / Spain / Dindi / Retratos Do Nordeste / Carinhoso / Old Devil Moon / Granada / Wave / Lamentos Do Morro / Que Reste-t'il / Round Midnight / Las Abejas / Stella By Starlight.*

**Diego Figueiredo (guitar), Cyrille Aimée (voc), Junior Meireles (bass), Milton Batera (drums).**

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