

Harry Allen

—

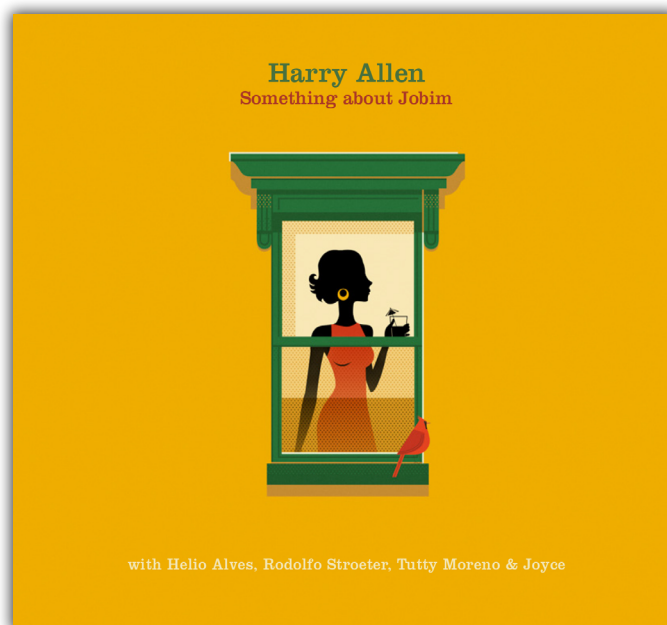
SOMETHING ABOUT JOBIM

Stunt Records

For 99 percent of all Brazilian musicians, Antonio Carlos Jobim is number one. His composition skills and his unique talent makes it possible for him to be, at the same time, amazingly sophisticated and easy to listen to. It tells us a lot about Brazil. In a way all Brazilian musicians have, like Jobim, a simple love of the beach, the forests, the birds and a way of being. His development, both as a composer and a lyricist, into the major artist that he is, makes Jobim one of the proudest proofs of Brazilian potentials and talent. Along with João Gilberto, Antonio Carlos Brasileiro de Almeida Jobim (his full name) have changed the ball game, and given Brazilian music international exposure and shaped a general view of what Brazil's musical roots and creative resources are. It is unthinkable to look upon Brazil as a musical nation without considering Jobim's artistic architecture and beauty.

Something About Jobim began in an unusual way, back in early 2015, when producer Rodolfo Stroeter was touring Europe with Joyce and her trio: Helio Alves on piano, Tutty Moreno on drums and himself on bass. They have been playing together for a long run, and Denmark and Club Montmartre in Copenhagen are among their top places. Rodolfo has worked with with Danish Stunt Records on several occasions before and, when in Copenhagen, he picked up some of the labels latest releases.

As always it took Rodolfo a few days to return to his Brazilian way of life and get ready to listen to some new music. He is a slow listener, and it takes some time before he is ready to absorb. Since he became a musician, who also produces music of many different styles, he is aware, that some good ideas often show up when he is in the "slow mode" as a listener. And it's a nice feeling being "slow" as one can really join together many aspects of, not only music, but of a joke, a Groucho quote, a poem, anything really. It's a special kind of mood, where everything makes much more sense, because it is cooked slowly inside your soul.



Stunt Records CD
STUCD 15122



It was in that kind of mood, Rodolfo checked out the albums and also listened to QUIETLY THERE an album with the American tenor player Harry Allen together with the Swedish players Jan Lundgren on piano and Hans Backenroth on bass and the Danish drummer Kristian Leth. "It immediately connected to one of those slow corners of my soul", Rodolfo Stroeter reflects. "Allen's airy tenor sound, along with his wonderful way of bringing up a solo, and the perfect blend with the great trio, got me at once. I felt like being in a distinct era, in foreign place, and in a quiet atmosphere unlike the fast race, we are so used to."

After a while, suddenly a title came to his mind: **Something About Jobim**. He thought that this would be a good one for a project which could finally feature Harry Allen. In life, things sometimes come together at the right moment, as they did in this project. Joyce and her trio (Helio, Rodolfo and Tutty) were booked for an upcoming tour in USA and Canada in May/June 2015. If Allen was interested, Joyce and the trio could have lots of fun and share this music in a very casual way. Emailing Stunt Records was the next step. It took about ten minutes to have the answer. It was an email with a smile, and a positive vibe, that instantly got things to move.

Back in the 70's, Jobim recorded three great albums in USA : TIDE, WAVE and STONE FLOWER. The music has a special uncompromising feeling to it. The arrangements are great. There are a lot of great players; Ron Carter on bass and Jobim himself playing the guitar, giving each track its own flavor. The three albums, arranged by Jobim, Eumir Deodato and Claus Ogerman, sound great, creating a relaxed feeling which permeates the whole project, creating a special environment. Curiously enough, most of the tunes on these albums never became major hits, but all the compositions had such a high spirit, a blessed Brazilian bossa nova and jazz feeling. That was the main thing. To get this feeling down on an album, would be such a major achievement. It is a sound of an era, it is part of the main style Jobim created. It's catchy, it has great harmonies, melodies flows all the time, and the rhythm... and so on and so on.



STUNT RECORDS

Joyce and Tutty were both enthusiastic about the project. As a Carioca (a person born in Rio de Janeiro) Joyce knew Jobim quite well. He respected and admired Joyce's singing a lot (he even wrote liner notes to one of her albums). And Joyce knows most of Jobim's repertoire by heart. So her great talent, her prodigious memory and her wonderful skills would be a blessing, and she came to it with her splendid voice, her great feeling of Brazilian music and, last but not least, with her unique guitar style, that we all know and love, blending bossa nova, samba and jazz.

Tutty Moreno, is a special and drummer. Rodolfo and Tutty have been sharing music for twenty years. He is a very creative and dynamic player and besides being a great expert on bossa nova and Brazilian jazz, Tutty has a very distinct smooth sound.

Rodolfo started to email Harry. His Danish connection from Stunt REcords had previously spoken to him, so they began to exchange ideas for the project. Rodolfo sent some emails and he would return with a very conclusive and short answers such as: "Great!", or "Let's do it!"

And then to Helio Alves. He is a Brazilian living in New York since the 1980's, and a pianist with enormous experience from playing with some of the most important musicians around, such as Joe Henderson, Yo Yo Ma, and Paquito D'Rivera. Helio had already worked with Harry Allen and knew all that could happen.

Then, the recording sessions took place at Systems Two Studio in Brooklyn in two days, but **Something About Jobim** was done almost at once. The tunes included in the album are either take one or take two (they never did a third one). Although the sessions were short and fast, the music has a "slow motion" atmosphere to it, as at the same time, the bossa nova feeling travels towards the listener, creating an air of happy intimacy with the players and Jobim.

Bossa Nova, Jazz, Balads, Samba, all at once. Harry Allen's great sound, Joyce's super voice and guitar, Helio Alves at his best, and Rodolfo and Tutty cooking the meal very carefully. **Something About Jobim** - we hope you will all dive in and join the music with the same vibe as we have done !

*Harry Allen - tenor sax / Helio Alves - piano / Rodolfo Stroeter - bass / Tutty Moreno - drums.
Special guest: Joyce - voice (*) and guitar.*

Dindi / Chovendo na Roseira / Captain Bacardi / Sue Ann / Theme For Jobim* / Mojave / Falando de Amor / Antigua / Angela / Voce Vai Ver* / Tema Jazz.*

STUCD 15122 Harry Allen, Something About Jobim, Stunt Records, Sundance Music ApS



STUNT RECORDS

Sundance Music ApS Gothersgade 107 1123 Copenhagen K Denmark
T: +45 3333 8720 www.sundance.dk sundance@sundance.dk