

Fernanda Cunha – CD CORAÇÃO DO BRASIL (2012)

This recording reflects the repertory she has sung in recent years in her live performances. Besides singing songs from her earlier albums, she always sing “Adeus America” (Haroldo Barbosa / Geraldo Jaques); "Somos todos iguais nesta noite" (Ivan Lins / Vitor Martins); and "Dindi" (Antonio Carlos Jobim / Aloysio de Oliveira). Since she has never recorded these songs before, she wanted to record them on this CD. At the same time she also wanted to record some songs that's he has never sung before but hope to perform in the coming years. Thus she has included some songs which are little known or previously unrecorded.

This CD celebrates the 15th year of her musical career, so she sought out the composers she most admire and with whom most identify. Fernanda loves singing outside of Brazil and being able to convey the beauty and happiness of Brazilian music to her audiences. She is proud to be a Brazilian artist. But Brazil is her home, where she finds inspiration.

The CD starts with “Eu preciso de voce” by Antonio Carlos (“Tom”) Jobim and Aloysio de Oliveira. “Dindi” (track 8) was also written by them. Jobim is the most important composer for her and for most Brazilian musicians; he is the composer she sings most often in her shows. After “Adeus America” is the delightful, “Não tem tradução” by Noel Rosa (1910-1937). When Noel died at the age of 26, he left over 200 songs. Sheer genius . . .

“Coração do Brasil”, by Antonio Adolfo and Nelson Wellington, is the song that provided the title to this CD. Antonio Adolfo has a famous music school in Rio from which great new musicians are now graduating. He remains ahead of his time and a pioneer of independent music in Brazil.

It was at Antonio Adolfo's school that Fernanda started her career. She took vocal lessons there in 1997. While she did not continue her formal studies, it was as a result of Antonio's kind and encouraging words about her singing that she began her career. From that moment on, she never stopped singing.

Also at Antonio's school, Fernanda met the pianist, Camilla Dias and have remained friends over the last 15 years. About 10 years ago, they wrote some songs together, and Fernanda chose one of them to record here. This bossa nova, “Rio” was featured in a Canadian short-film called “tying the not” in 2009.

Daniel Gonzaga is her favorite artist of her generation. She sings “Samba pro Joao” on this CD.

Sueli Costa, besides being a great songwriter, is her aunt. Fernanda has recorded 11 of her songs in her career, and cannot count how many she has performed over the years. On this CD is a previously unrecorded song of Sueli's with lyrics by Luiz Sergio Henriques. Luiz also wrote lyrics for “Feito andorinha” with music by pianist and composer, Marcio Hallack.

Fernanda is a huge fan of Ivan Lins and Vitor Martins. “Somos todos iguais nesta noite” (by Ivan and Vitor) is the last song on the CD. Although the lyrics were written during the difficult period of military rule and censorship in Brazil (1964-1985), the words remain current and eternal, capable of many interpretations. That what makes Vitor a great poet and a magician with

words. For Fernanda, the “circus ring” featured in the lyrics, is the stage where she wants to be forever with her fellow musicians doing her best wherever she may go.

The musicians playing on this CD:

Her long-time friends and musicians: bass player Jorjão Carvalho; the guitar player Ze Carlos, pianist Cristóvão Bastos, (tracks 1, 4, and 10), drummer Jurim Moreira .

Special guests on piano, are the composers, Camilla Dias (track 7), Marcio Hallack (track 5) and Sueli Costa (track 9).

Also on this CD is a very special guest: the composer, arranger, conductor, pianist, electric bassist and accordionist Tom Szczesniak from Toronto (on track 9).

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