

Album Reviews



Bossa Nova Sunset Club (2020)

Review Magazine, The Weekend Australian (national)

Eric Myers is Australia's pre-eminent jazz writer and critic.

Courtesy of the bossa nova, a ubiquitous time-feel found everywhere in jazz, Brazilian music enjoys a mythical status. This Brisbane group has spent 23 years dedicated to developing a rare empathy with Brazil's sensuous music. Their unusual album features Anje West, singing virtually the whole repertoire in the Portuguese language. As most Australian listeners will hear her vocals as an instrument, it's fortunate that her voice is understated, well recorded, not too lush, and has a lovely vibrato, ideal for Brazilian-flavoured music. Solos, chiefly by Kym Ambrose (vibraphone) and Bruce Woodward (guitar) are unfailingly appealing, and the inner rhythmic structures of 12 tracks are well thought through, underpinned by the great Brazilian drummer Marcio Bahia. Time-feels other than the bossa nova, with interesting rhythmic nuances, are explored here too, suggesting a genuine study and absorption of Brazilian music.

Four Stars. Eric Myers

"I'm loving every track . Opening with the classic Garota De Ipanema, Anje and the distinguished band just capture every Brazilian flavour, colour, rhythm and romantic mood of a nation that has produced some of the greatest musicians in the last 100 years. You can feel the love from the first note. Congratulations, best release of the year!"

Helen Simons, writer, radio host.

"Bossa Nova Sunset Club is a landmark album, and a significant contribution to the history of Brazilian-influenced Australian music"

Mike Ryan, Founder/Director Triboz Centro Cultural Australia-Brasil (Rio de Janeiro)

Reviews (cont.)



Casa da Boa Vida (2009)

"West and Ambrose say Brazil has taught them to live in the moment, and Casa da Boa Vida shows their instinct for this kind of music is as authentic as can be"

Noel Mengel, Head Music Writer, Courier Mail (Qld)

"Casa da Boa Vida continues the love affair The View From Madeleines Couch began with Brazilian music in Tranquilo, but has definitely heightened my appreciation of these fine musicians. This is to me a desert island disc – I love it".

Sharon Thomposon, Thompson's Corner, FM 99.3



Tranquilo (2005)

Tranquilo is an album that is unforced, uncluttered, and as natural as can be".

Noel Mengel, Head Music Writer, The Courier Mail (Qld)

"The album's hallmarks are its delicate and uncluttered song arrangements, West's sweetly plangent voice and Ambrose's skilled vibraphone playing. It's not often vibes features in Brazilian music, and here their melodic infusion is truly gorgeous.

Jane Costessi, ABC radio (national)

Posted on the band's socials after the 25th Anniversary Concerts, 2022...

Jeff L.

It was a magical event from the first note to the last and so amazing to see the essence of your power as a world class bunch of players shot out of a canon through 14 songs. So special and you should feel so proud. Thank you

Mercedes H.

It was a brilliant show. Thanks for sharing your joy and music to our lives

Noel Mengel

That was the greatest show I've seen by a Queensland band in years. Everyone who was there knows that. What a night!

Jo T.

Absolutely sensational show. It was so joyous and full of heart, not to mention the incredible music. Brilliant!

Raimundo R.

The show was perfeito, and you all were so beautiful. Parabens.

Carole C.

Really special show! Fabulous band. You were stunning Anje!

Bruno P.

The show was BEAUTIFUL! I want to talk to you about it, because I really, really loved it, and there so many special moments.

Olivier Maluco

Strings and horns additions to the band were absolutely marvellous BTW. Loved it

Vanessa S.

Being there in the audience watching you was awe inspiring and I loved every minute of it...Well done for pulling off the best night and gig I've been to in what feels like 25years...

Alison B.

Our group were on their feet, as everyone was, in a celebration of joy! Thank you Anje, Kym and all the amazing musicians on stage

Tanya G.

This was a first for me to listen to Bossa Nova , and I loved the show.

Every song was so beautiful.

The way you all worked together so beautifully to make this music, was so incredibly entertaining. Thank you for sharing your story and here is to the next 25 years of making beautiful music together

Robert C.

Quite possibly the best show that I've seen this year.

It had polish and intimacy in the one mix.

The best bit was seeing both yourself and Kym having the night of your lives!