

Jazz Beyond Borders

For Immediate Release

Contact: Paula Phillips 443-702-7016

Brazil Project June 12
An die Musik Live
409 N Charles St, Baltimore, MD 21201
(410) 385-2638
Admission: \$18 advance, \$20 door, \$10 students

Brazil Project Celebrates the Release of *Retrato/Portrait*

Brazil Project returns for a night of exceptional music. This concert features virtuoso Brazilian jazz bassist Leonardo Lucini, master guitarist Dani Cortaza, piano prodigy Alex Brown (Paquito D’Rivera) and drummer *par excellence* Todd Harrison (Jazz Ambassadors). It introduces immensely gifted composer and saxophonist Michel Nirenberg. Join the band in celebrating the release of Nirenberg’s new CD. *Retrato/Portrait* on indie label Carioca Music.

With *Retrato/Portrait*, Michel Nirenberg builds bridges between the classical, samba and choro music he grew up playing in Brazil and the jazz music he explored more deeply as a graduate student in the States. His compositions reflect distinctive musical roots from each Hemisphere; places where African and European influences helped create many rich and inviting sounds. Brazilian jazz lovers will appreciate the range of styles presented in this contemporary Brazilian instrumental music.

The album opens with a rousing choro which combines “Chorinho na Aldeia” by Severino Araújo and “Na Glória” composed by Raul de Barros and Ari dos Santos. (Na Gloria is the trendy neighborhood in Rio, where choro originated.) The two songs are linked by a segment of shouting voices conveying the excitement of a Brazilian *feira* (open market) and listeners will soon find themselves dancing in their seats.

Equally inviting are Nirenberg’s tango/cha-cha/jazz piece “À Deux,” the second album track, and his “Forró From the South,” from Track 3. Forró is popular dance style from the Northeast of Brazil. This one pays tribute to the State of Virginia, where Nirenberg earned a master’s degree in music performance at James Madison University.

Listeners will enjoy Leonardo Lucini’s unique arrangement of “Caravan” originally developed for a Kennedy Center concert and found on Track 5. Lucini and Nirenberg co-produced the album. Their body of work is refreshing and authentic!

An die Musik Live is located on the second floor, 409 No. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21201 (410) 385-2638. Admission is \$18 advance, \$20 at the door and \$10 for students. Brazil Project concerts sellout quickly. Advance purchase is strongly advised!