

Verdini -

GILBERTO GIL

~~Gil returns to the studio~~.....responding to immense public demand, Gilberto Gil is due to release a brand new CD/DVD, "Electracustico", recorded in Rio in September 2004, after a gap of some three years due to his high profile commitment as Brazil's Minister of Culture. *Two*

The 14 tracks on "Electracustico" reveal a wealth of surprises. Gil has revisited some of the greatest music from his long and spectacular career – hits like "Refavela" (1977), "Andar com Fe" (1982); "A Linha e o Linho" (1983); "Aquele Abraco" (1969) and "Se Eu Quiser Falar com Deus" (1980) are all given dramatic new life, as are classic tracks like Chico Barque's "A Rita" from 1965 – the first single from the new CD – and "Maractu Atomico" (1974) written in 1974 by Nelson Jacobina and Jorge Mautner – with Mautner himself contributing wonderfully hypnotic violin to the new version.

Further tracks bring *yet* more fascinating insights into the music of one of Brazil's greatest artists. Two songs co-written by Gil and Capinam, for instance – "La Lune de Goree" from 1995, and "Soy Loco Por Ti America" from way back in 1967 – a song which provides a terrific finale to the CD.

In between, there's a typically original choice of international songs – the tango "Cambalache", written by Enrique Santos Discepolo in 1934, sits alongside a poignant reading of John Lennon's "Imagine (1971) and "Three Little Birds" (1977), reflecting Gil's long-standing love of songs of the great Bob Marley. And, to round off, a couple more of Gil's songs – "Chuck Berry Fields Forever" (1976) and "Guerra Santa", from 1995.

The DVD brings more treasure.... Unreleased footage from a special concert at the United Nations headquarters features strongly, with performances of "Filhos de Ghandi", "Nao Chore Mais" and "Soy Loco Por Ti America". Five bonus tracks, not on the CD, are especially intriguing – "Mae Solteira" (by Wilson Batista and Jorge de Castro); "Asa Branca", (by Humberto Teixeira and Luiz Gonzaga); "Nos Barracos da Cidade" (by Gil and Liminha); Gil's version of Vincent Ford's song "Nao Chore Mais"; and two more Gil originals, "Touche Pas a Mon Pote" and "Drao". New images from the opening night of the launch season in Rio complete the DVD *motion picture*.

As well as the extraordinary and very special range of music on these new recordings, there's an additional important element – the band itself. No bass, no electric guitar, not even a brass section. This is Gil at his intimate best – Sergio Chiavazzoli (strings and back-up vocals), Marcos Suzano (percussion and back-up vocals), Gustavo di Dalva (percussion and back-up vocals), and Cicero Assis (keyboards and accordion) provide a backdrop for Gil's voice and acoustic guitar that matches every mood to perfection.

Gilberto Gil ^{is the} musical director for this new project. ^{or Gil itself is the m.} The DVD was directed by Bernardo Palmiero (Fuzo Producoes), and the CD was produced by Gil's longterm associate and producer Liminha. The release is dedicated to the memory of Warner Music's record producer and artistic director Tom Capone, who first suggested that Gil document the show that he had been touring in Europe.

Electracustico in Gil's own words..... (this can stand as it is).