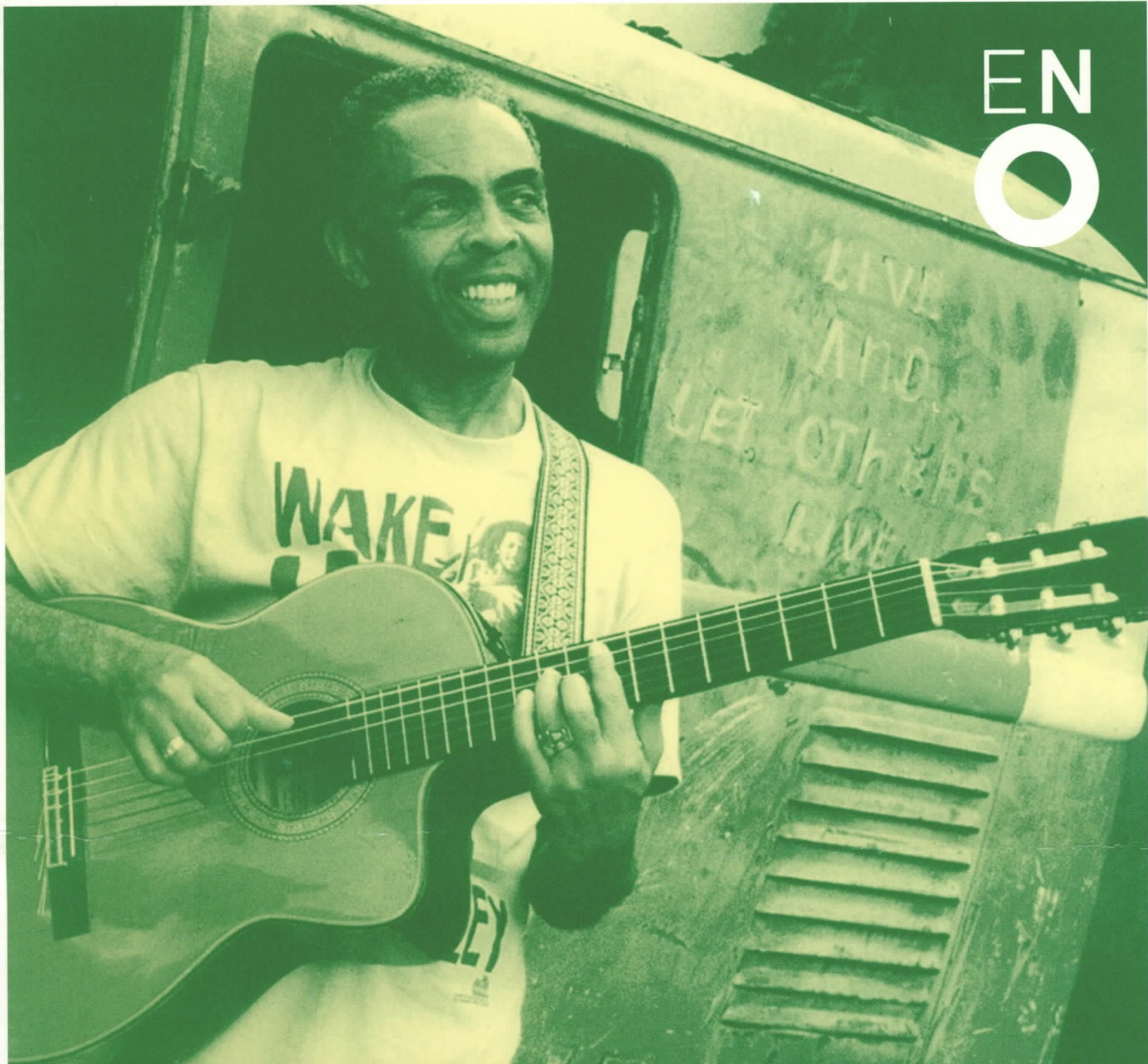


ENO



ENO & O₂ present

GILBERTO GIL

Eletracústico

Monday 11 July 2005 8pm
LONDON COLISEUM

O₂ Music

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

Gilberto Gil

GILBERTO GIL WAS the architect of a pop movement called Tropicalismo along with fellow musicians Caetano Veloso and Tom Ze, which set out to “cannibalise” foreign cultural ideas, while remaining distinctively Brazilian, a link between the Bossa Nova of the early sixties and international pop of The Beatles and Rolling Stones. Electric and folk instruments, literary and kitsch fragments, everything was thrown into the mix. The group’s radicalism fell foul of Brazil’s military dictatorship and Gil was jailed, then spent three years in exile in London.

There Gil got to hang out with musicians from Traffic and Pink Floyd “in those days we all looked to London as the centre of pop music. You know, the Swinging Sixties.” Did he do much swinging? “Of course. Why not?” he laughs. So how did he get from being a dangerous political exile to being Minister- has he lost his radical edge in the intervening years? “My energy flow is different, not so focused on one thing. And I’m ageing, your mind follows your body, and age puts everything in a different perspective.”

Gil has consistently been ahead of the game in his career, from his experimental fusions in the 60s to a more recent song about the internet. He introduced reggae into Brazilian music and is a huge Bob Marley fan - Marley was one of the catalysts that got Gil interested in black politics; another was a trip to Africa where he met Stevie Wonder in the house of the politically active African pop star Fela Kuti in Lagos, all of which got him reflecting on his Afro-Brazilian heritage. He became a priest of Xango, one of the gods worshipped in Bahia in the candomble Afro-Catholic religion. “It’s like the Greek pantheon in that figures like Xango are both good and bad. In Bahia the divine is closer to the human. If there’s one thing I’ve learnt” he says “it’s that I’m both good and bad.”

A short extract from a longer article by Peter Culshaw originally published in the Daily Telegraph.

MUSICIANS

Gilberto Gil Vocals, Guitar

Sergio Chiavazzoli Guitars

Gustavo di Dalva Percussion

Marcos Suzano Percussion

Cicero Assis Keyboards, Accordion

- Running time is approximately 2 hours with no interval
- Standing is not permitted anywhere in the auditorium during the performance
- Drinks are not allowed in the auditorium
- Smoking is forbidden in all areas of the London Coliseum



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

English National Opera

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Chris McDougall Production Manager

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Peter Singh Lighting Supervisor

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Lucy Paget Deputy Head of Sound

Chris Coxhead Sound Supervisor

Gus Martinez Show Team Supervisor

Micky Driscoll Show Team Assistant

Catherine Hylton Stage Manager

Dominique Pierre-Louis Deputy Stage Manager

Sound equipment supplied by **System Sound**

GILBERTO GIL

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ENO

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The public may leave at the end of the performance by all exit doors, and such doors must at all times be open. All gangways, passages and staircases must be entirely free from chairs or any other obstruction. Persons shall not under any circumstances be permitted to stand or sit in any of the gangways. If standing be permitted in the gangways at the sides and rear of the seating, it shall be strictly limited to the number indicated in the notices exhibited in those positions. The safety curtain must be lowered and raised in the presence of the audience. Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the London Coliseum. The use of still or video cameras, or sound recording equipment, is forbidden during any performance.

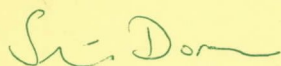
ENO & O₂ present

THE VOICE SERIES

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you again to our pioneering artistic collaboration with O₂ – **ENO and O₂ present** – which enables ENO to explore classical music's sister voices of other cultures and genres within an opera house environment. The ENO and O₂ partnership invites you to engage with opera's most fundamental elements, the voice and the word, in staged performance.

Following the previous events in the ENO and O₂ Voice Series, including *Voices of Central Asia*, Talvin Singh and Sezen Aksu, we are now very pleased to welcome Gilberto Gil to our home, the London Coliseum. This is a rare opportunity to experience Brazil's greatest singer and composer.

I hope you enjoy this evening's performance, and look forward to welcoming you to future events as part of **ENO and O₂ present**, as well as to performances in our main season at the Coliseum. Our sincere thanks to O₂ as the season sponsor, without whom these performances would not be possible at the London Coliseum.



Seán Doran

Artistic Director and Chief Executive
English National Opera

O₂ shares with ENO a commitment to promote cross-cultural understanding through music, in particular, through vocal expression. O₂'s collaboration with ENO, launched with last year's hugely successful Glastonbury Festival, enables ENO to reach audiences for whom it would otherwise have little or no relevance.

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