

OK!, traduzido em 28/Jan

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**Subject:** Polar Music Prize, prize book  
**Date:** 26 de janeiro de 2005 14:52  
**From:** Kim Pettersson <kim.pettersson@musakad.se>  
**To:** "Lopes, Meny" <gege@gege.com.br>  
**Priority:** Highest

Prizila  
vejo já o chlo!

Dear Meny,

We are working on the prize book for the prize ceremony and I would very much appreciate if you please could take a look at the text I'm attaching so that we now it is ok for printing.

I need your approval by the 31st of January!

Best regards,  
Kim Pettersson

## GILBERTO GIL

The Polar Music Prize 2005 is being awarded the Brazilian composer and musician Gilberto Gil for his unflinching creative engagement in bringing to the world the heart and soul of the rich music of Brazil. A unique composer powered by immense talent and curiosity. A unique musical ambassador powered by firm cultural conviction.

embassador?

Gilberto Gil carries out a fundamental role in the constant modernization process of Brazilian popular music. Partaking of this scene for 32 years, he has developed one of the most relevant and renown careers as a singer, composer and guitar-player in this field. Gil has had his albums released abroad since 1978, the year of his successful performance at the Montreux Jazz Festival, in Switzerland, recorded live. Every year he tours Europe, North America, Latin America and Japan with his contagious pop music spoken in portuguese-brazilian and international language. A music with a strong rhythmic appeal and melodic richness, as mixed as its people.

Gilberto Gil was born in 1942 in Salvador, Bahia, one of the most traditional and original centers of music creation in Brazil and the world. Rhythms from the northeast of Brazil like the baião, apart from samba and bossa-nova were fundamental in his formation. Using them as a starting point, Gil forged his own music to which he incorporated rock, reggae, funk and rhythms from Bahia such as afoxé. Gil has tackled a wide variety of issues in his lyrics, pertinent to modern reality: from social inequality to the racial question, from African to Oriental culture, from science to religion, among others. The mastership with which Gil explores these subjects makes him one of the greatest Brazilian composer-lyricists.

Gil's importance to the culture of his country goes back to the 60's, when he and Caetano Veloso created Tropicalism. Radically innovative in the music scene, the movement assimilated pop culture to national genres; deeply critical on political and moral levels, Tropicalism ended up being repressed by the authoritarian regime. Gil and Caetano were imprisoned and exiled.

In London, Gil recorded an album in English for the local Philips. When he returned to Brazil, he began a series of anthological records in the 70's: "Expresso 2222", "Gil Jorge" (with Jorge Ben Jor), "Os Doces Bárbaros" (with the baianos Caetano, Gal Costa and Maria Bethânia) and a conceptual trilogy made up by "Refazenda" (of country extraction), "Refavela" (with rhythms from Jamaica, Nigeria, Rio and Bahia) and "Realce". The latter, recorded in Los Angeles, fixed his option for pop music, which would direct the outcome of his work in the 80's. In the 90's came "Parabolicamará", "Tropicália 2", (a celebration, with Caetano, of the 25 years of the Tropicalist movement), and "Unplugged", (a collection of successes, recorded live for MTV). In 1997, the double CD Quanta was released. In 1998, "Quanta gente veio ver" won the Grammy Award. In 2000 - "Eu Tu Eles" and "São João Vivo". In 2002 - "Kaya N'Gandaya", which after a worldwide Tour became an alive CD. With 30 albums released, Gilberto Gil has six gold records, four platinum singles and more than 4 million records sold. He has recorded with people like João Gilberto and the group The Wailers. Live, he has sung with Stevie Wonder and with Jimmy Cliff with whom he did many shows in 1980. Among artists that have recorded his work are João Gilberto, Elis Regina, Gal Costa, Sérgio Mendes, Ernie Watts and Toots Thielmans.

*Falta de ênfase. Mas 11 de dezembro, Gil respondeu to immense public demand. After a gap of some two years due to his*

For his work, Gilberto Gil was honored with the Knighthood of the Order of the Arts and Literature by the French Minister of Culture Jack Lang, and has also received many prizes in Brazil, where he is a nationally known personality. In the last ten years Gil has also become a man of action in extra-musical fields. He has been a councilman for Salvador and is involved in environmental and social projects to this day. Currently he is the Minister of Culture of Brazil.

Compiled by Carlos Rennó

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*His profile as minister and Gil's Minister of Culture made he decided to release record alive a show that he created during these years*

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