



Music to make you happy

Thiago Delegado releases the album Sambetes Vol.1, on CD and vinyl, fully recorded in analogue.

The composer and guitarist is accompanied by Christiano Caldas, Aloizio Horta and André Limão Queiroz

Thursday, around 11 at night, without much punctuality. Those who like music know that in Belo Horizonte, in the bar “A Casa”, it is the day and time of DelegasCia. Recognized, but modest, the violinist, composer and arranger Thiago Delegado surrounds himself with friends for the most well-known instrumental gig in the city. Aloizio Horta on contrabass, Christiano Caldas on keyboards and André Limão Queiroz on drums form the team, opened to spontaneity. It was in that context that the inspiration of the repertoire Sambetes Vol.1 was drawn and which is now being released on CD and vinyl.

The disc was recorded in São João del-Rei, in the region of Campo das Vertentes, in the only studio in the state with fully analogue technology. The choice was not only technical but also emotional. Sambetes Vol.1 is an album that follows a line of sophisticated instrumental music that comes from before the bossa nova, influenced by the music made in the small nightclubs of Beco das Garrafas, in Rio de Janeiro, and later mixed with jazz and other sounds. Pre-bossa, bossa and post-bossa. If samba is the sadness that dances, as defined by Vinicius de Moraes, in Sambetes she dances even more. The choice to record a vinyl is a natural consequence of this history.

The compositions bear the mark of his important genesis. These are themes that Thiago Delegado introduced to his friends and that were tested in the most demanding way in the music industry - the night. With a seemingly simple structure, direct, full of swing, instrumentalized in creative improvisations, the Sambetes capture a happiness that is rare in the field of music. The pleasure of listening and playing seems to be the same. While the musicians have fun, the audience incorporates an extra dose of joy through the music. Sambetes Vol.1 is not a disc to keep, it is from the ones that will heat the plate - or the platforms - running without stopping.

Thiago's guitar commands the arrangements, creating the bases throughout the album which shape a very peculiar sound, adding a special touch by the keyboards Rhodes and Hammond by Christiano Caldas. The contrabass and drums bring the best memory of instrumental music of the 1960s and 1970s, but with many contemporary contributions, original and full of ideas. All compositions are by Thiago Delegado, besides the track *Afrosambete* which is by him and Aloizio Horta.

One of the influences of the album, Roberto Menescal presents in the opening track, the fun track *Sambete do Menexca*. His influence is also strongly felt in the track *O Barquinho*. Delegado met Menescal through Christiano Caldas, who had worked with him. From that meeting arose the invitation to launch in Rio de Janeiro the album *Thiago Delegado Trio live at the Pampulha Museum*. Always attentive to new talents (he is one of the greatest

producers of Brazilian music and has an infallible ear to discover talents), Menexca not only attended but also performed in the track *Viamundo* in Thiago Delegado's third album.

Made in honour to his niece Maria Luiza, the song *Sambete da Malu* is considered by the author as the most 'guitaristic' of the album. The only song with lyrics is *Garoto Matheus*, which has a story to tell. Delegado wrote the song in response to an elitist and threatening message from a resident in a middle-class neighbourhood who was bothered by Matheus Brant's Carnival band called "Me Beija Que Eu Sou Pagodeiro". The song raised a lot of attention in the social media by people who like dancing music. In addition, the song gave Thiago Delegado the opportunity to fulfil his desire to "be João Gilberto," whispering as his idol for the first time on record.

Sambetes vol. 1 is of a collective nature, which could only have been born among friends, suggesting other aesthetic dialogues. *Afrosambete* is a tribute to the Afro-sambas of Baden and Vinicius, it incorporates new percussive rhythms and is worked in more divisions. *Sambete Americano* begins as a *choro* and transitions to jazz and American rhythms. *Sambete nº2* is pure swing by João Donato that improvises smartly and humorously.

As humour is the mark in everything that Delgado does, there is even a tribute to the *pagode*, in the *Sambete Maguá no Pagode*. "We discovered in this music a descent of Minas Gerais", says Delegado. The relaxed *Sambete Preguiçoso*, came up also from a joke with the audience who experienced the work in progress on Thursday nights in "A Casa".

The atmosphere of joy is evident throughout the album. But not everything was a party during the recording in São João del-Rei. "It was a bit tense," recalls Thiago Delegado. "We did about eight rehearsals, in addition to our weekly performance. We were ready, but the challenge of recording the whole record in one day, with the difficulties of analogue recording, brought a bit of tension to the process". Only the first track was recorded within three hours. We finished recording at 3 am.

To conclude, Thiago Delegado presents the word *Sambete* from his particular musical dictionary: "They are sambas, with well-defined themes, fun, with a lot of swing and space for improvisation."

Affective Memory

When listening to *Sambetes Vol. 1*, those who like Brazilian instrumental music will lose (and find) themselves seeking references from the pianists Luiz Eça, Dom Salvador, Tenório Jr., Sérgio Mendes and, above all, João Donato, without forgetting the organists Ed Lincoln and Walter Wanderley. The beats of Milton Banana, Edison Machado, Dom Um and Aírto Moreira. The contrabass lines of Luiz Chaves, Tião Neto, Humberto Clayber, Luiz Marinho and Edson Lobo. The guitar of Baden Powell and Roberto Menescal, the arrangements of Moacyr Santos and Eumir Deodato.

They are names that bring back the memory of sounds played at the same time in several neighbouring houses in Copacabana: Sound 3, Sansa Trio, Sambossa 5, Sambrasa Trio, Quarteto Bossamba, Sexteto Bossa Rio, among others. Brazilian instrumental music helped create the bossa nova, but was, according to some historians, the first victim of its international recognition. The success made samba an elitist show. Many of the instrumentalists mentioned above went to the United States to teach jazz and *sambar*. The rest is history.

SAMBETES 1

- 1 - Sambete do Menexca
- 2- Sambete da Malu
- 3 -Maguá no Pagode
- 4 - Sambete Preguiçoso
- 5 - Afrosambete
- 6 - Sambete Americano
- 7 - Garoto Matheus
- 8 - Sambete nº 2

All tracks are composed by Thiago Delegado, besides *Afrosambete*, which is by Thiago Delegado and Aloizio Horta.

All tracks are played by:

Thiago Delegado – Seven strings guitar

Christiano Caldas –Rhodes and Hammond

Aloizio Horta –Contrabass

André Limão Queiroz – Drums



Thiago Delegado

Reference in guitar with seven strings (Brazilian guitar), the instrumentalist and composer from Minas Gerais, Thiago Delegado stands out for his performance that mixes the simple sonority with sophisticated composition. He has recorded four albums: "Sambetes Vol.1" (2018), "Viamundo" (2015), "Thiago Delegado Trio: Live at the Pampulha Art Museum" (2012) and "Serra Do Curral" (2010). Revealing a deep intimacy with his instrument and a musical language without frontiers, Delegado penetrates through different musical genres: choro, samba, Bossa Nova and jazz. Considered one of the greatest talents of the Brazilian guitar, Thiago Delegado explores all possibilities of his seven strings, renewing old themes and presenting his own compositions.

The result is a modern, lively, virtuous and surprising sound. One of the most striking features of the instrumentalist's work is the ability to attract audiences, making instrumental music accessible to all.

About Thiago

Thiago Delegado is a guitarist, arranger and composer. Along the years, he has earned many awards (BDMG Instrumental 2011, Young Instrumentalist BDMG 2009, Marco Antônio Araújo Award 2011 - the best independent instrumental record of 2010 produced in Minas Gerais) and has participated in important projects like "Novos Talentos do Jazz", "Festival de Jazz da Savassi", "Conexão Vivo", "Festa da Música", "Festival de Jazz de Ouro Preto", "MIMO", among others.

He performed in duo alongside Wagner Tiso in 2012 and 2015, as well as with the mandolinist Hamilton de Holanda and guitarist Yamandu Costa at the festival Natura Música Minas.

In 2012, he was selected by the Programa Música Minas, to perform at "WOMEX" (World Expo Music) held in Thessaloniki, Greece which is considered to be the largest World Music fair in the world.

In the concerts where he released his second album, he performed with the pianist João Donato in Belo Horizonte, Fabiana Cozza in São Paulo, and Toninho Horta in Rio de Janeiro.

In 2013, Thiago Delegado performed in Ouro Preto, Ipatinga, Salvador and Belo Horizonte, alongside Roberto Menescal. In addition, the musician hosts the projects "Delegas Samba Clube" that in 2016 received Arlindo Cruz, and "DelegasCia". The latter is a weekly jam session which is recorded on DVD and this year it celebrates ten years of existence.

In 2014, Thiago went on tour with the singer Leila Pinheiro passing through four states in Brazil (Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Paraná and Minas Gerais).

"Viamundo", the third work of the artist counts with the participation of João Donato, Leila Pinheiro, Fabiana Cozza, Roberto Menescal, Aline Calixto, among other artists that marked the trajectory of the guitarist. In addition to the national tour of "Viamundo", in 2016 he released the first DVD of his career.

Also in 2016, Thiago Delegado was invited to join the project Prata da Casa do Sesc Pompeia (SP), being the only performer of instrumental music. Alongside the rapper Flávio Renegado, he made the opening show of the Savassi Festival, the biggest festival of its type in Latin America, he also performed in Paris with the singer Aline Calixto and is preparing to return to Portugal with a new project.

In 2017, Delegado returns to the studio. This time, to analogically record the Sambetes Vol.1 that will come out on vinyl and CD. He currently presents the third season of the weekly program *A Hora do Improviso*, on Radio Inconfidência FM and Rede Minas.

More Information:

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