

YTA MORENO

Yta Moreno was born in Rio de Janeiro as the first of six children. He was already 25, when he discovered his love for singing and music. Yta started his musical career as a drummer for dance ensembles, in bars and clubs in Brasilia. He dedicated more than 3 years into classical voice training. His teachers were Ana Maria Martins, Fernanda Gianetti and Alda Pereira Pinto. He soon amazed and mesmerized his audience as a singer, composer, guitarist, bass player, percussionist and drummer.

Yta Moreno has been awarded several times and took part in most of the major and important musical events and festivals of his home country, Brazil. He shared the stage with many Brazilian stars, for example Joyce and Osvaldo Montenegro. As an instrumentalist, he played with Nara Leao, Elisethe Cardoso and Jair Rodrigues. Further on Yta has appeared as a guitarist in the videoclip of Mick Jagger's first solo album that was recorded in Rio in 1984. He had an acting part in the film Wild Orchidee. Yta participated in an important event for the Brazilian government, named Projeto Pixinguinha; together with Fatima Guedes and the project Seis e meia with Luiz Melodia, Sala Funarte with Raimundo Sodré and Marilia Barbosa.

On the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the great poet Fernando Pessoa, Yta presented new songs that were especially composed for the poems of Pessoa by Dorival Caymmi and André Luis at the Teatro del Bolso and on TVE. In May 1990, Yta Moreno was for the first time on tour in Europe with a group called No pingo d'agua. The tour started in Holland, where the band played at the 650th anniversary of the city of Rotterdam. They continued throughout Belgium, Germany, Denmark and finished in New York. During his period of international touring and traveling, Yta played many clubs and festivals; e.g. Blue Note (N.Y.), Porgy & Bess (Vienna), Jazzfest Wien (A) with internationally acclaimed Austrian guitarist Karl

Ratzer, Festival of Black Music Sunsplash (Wiesen, A), Expo 2002 (CH), Karneval der Kulturen (Berlin), to name a few.

Since 1990, Yta chose Vienna as a base for his musical activities, which led to work and collaborations with local Jazz musicians as well as African roots men. Together with his (musical) brother Ricardo Mateus, Yta took part in the foundation of Viennas first Samba groups, aiming to teach Austrians, how to play the drum. The drum is the heart of music. Those, who carry music in their hearts, have the power to unite people. The presentation of his debut album *Meus Passos*, took place at the world renowned Porgy & Bess Jazz & Music Club, in January 2002. The record features distinguished Jazzmen like Joris Dudli, Martin Spitzer, Oliver Kent and Karl Ratzer as a special guest. Ytas openness towards other cultures and music styles is being reflected in the multifariousness of his projects and allows him to move freely in all various rhythms and genres. The musical feeling and innervation of his motherland, Brazil, nurture his own compositions: He mixes Bossa Nova, Choro, Samba Partido Alto, Baião, Xote, Maracatú with sufficient Jazz, Funk and African influences.

Ytas musical style incorporates the sensuality and harmonies of Brazilian rhythms in connection with very old themes from Africa, often with an unusual baroque completion and ramification. Repeatedly he refuses to be put into drawers of musical categories. He does not feel at home within any of them and still at the same time in all of them: "Music is for me like painting a picture. I want to have the freedom to choose from any colour (of the entire spectrum), that comes to my mind." Yta is a versatile artist, who is not afraid of crossing borders in music and doing interdisciplinary work. Take for instance his mutual project with installation artist David Zink Yi. Furthermore he accomplished an acting education at Centro de Artes de Laraanjairas (CAL). Yta Moreno performs with different formations: From solo to trio and quintet up to an eight-piece band. His voice functions as the main instrument in these groups. Yta is engaged in a variety of ensembles of different styles as an instrumentalist (Afro, Rock, Reggae, Jazz-chanson, and Caribe).