

Paquito d’Rivera, *clarinet*
Sérgio and Odair Assad, *guitars*
Dances from The New World

Thursday, January 27, 2005, 8 pm
Zellerbach Hall

Afro	Paquito d’Rivera
El Choclo	Angel Villoldo
Aquarela do Brasil	Ary Barroso
Trialogo	R. Guerra
Drume Negrita	E. Grenet
Dizziness	Paquito d’Rivera
Conga de la Media Noche	Ernesto Lecuona
Miudinho, <i>Bachianas Brasileiras</i> , No. 4	Heitor Villa-Lobos
Milonga per tre	Astor Piazzolla
Malambo	Alberto Ginastera

INTERMISSION

Baiao Malandro	Egberto Gismonti
Hoedown from <i>Rodeo</i>	Aaron Copland
Mangabeira	Sergio Assad
Vals, No. 3	Antonio Lauro
Vete de mi	Bola de Nieve
Danza Paraguaya	Agustin Barrios
O Ovo/Bebe	Hermeto Pascoal
Alfonsina y el mar	Antonio Ramirez
Um a zero	Vianna Filho Pixinguinha
Escualo	Astor Piazzolla

The Assads play Thomas Humphrey guitars.

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and the Zellerbach Family Foundation for their generous support.*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Paquito D’Rivera was born in Cuba and began his career as a child prodigy, playing both the clarinet and saxophone with the Cuban National Symphony Orchestra. He eventually went on to premier several works by notable Cuban composers with the same orchestra.

A restless musical genius, Mr. D’Rivera formed and performed with various musical ensembles as a teenager and became one of the founding members of the Orquesta Cubana de Musica Moderna, which he subsequently conducted for two years. He was also founding member and co-director of the innovative musical group Irakere, whose explosive mixture of jazz, rock, classical and traditional Cuban music had never been heard before. The group toured extensively throughout America and Europe, won several Grammy nominations and a Grammy.

Most recently Mr. D’Rivera won the NEA Jazz Masters 2005 Award, which follows his 2004 award from the Jazz Journalists Association as Clarinetist of the Year. In 2003 he received a Doctorate Honoris Causa in Music from the Berklee School of Music. He has also received a

Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to Latin Music, along with Dizzy Gillespie and Gato Barbieri. Mr. D’Rivera has won six Grammys and made history for being the first artist to win Latin Grammys in both Classical and Latin Jazz categories, for Stravinsky’s *Historia del Soldado* and *Brazilian Dreams* with New York Voices in 2003.

While Mr. D’Rivera’s discography includes more than 30 solo albums in jazz, bebop and Latin music, his contributions to classical music are similarly impressive. They include solo performances with the National Symphony Orchestra, Brooklyn Philharmonic, London Royal Symphony, and Florida Philharmonic Orchestra. He has also performed with the Bronx Arts Ensemble, St. Luke’s Chamber Orchestra, Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra, Costa Rican National Symphony, and Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra, among others. Mr. D’Rivera also keeps busy by frequently touring around the world with his ensembles: the Chamber Jazz Ensemble, the Paquito D’Rivera Big Band and the Paquito D’Rivera Quintet.

In his quest to bring Latin repertoire into the

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forefront of the classical arena, he has successfully created, championed and promoted all types of classical compositions, including three chamber pieces he composed and recorded with Yo-Yo Ma live at Zankell Hall, Carnegie Hall, in 2003. In 2002, he was commissioned by The National Symphony Orchestra and the Rotterdam Philharmonic to write a concerto *Gran Danzon (The Bel Air Concerto)* for the acclaimed flutist Marina Piccinini under the baton of Maestro Leonard Slatkin at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Other premieres include pieces for the Turtle Island String Quartet, The Ying String Quartet and the International Double Reed Congress 30th Anniversary in Canada. In 2002 The Library of Congress also commissioned Mr. D’Rivera for a *Jazz Fantasy for Piano and Violin*. Jazz at Lincoln Center commissioned his *Panamericana Suite* for their As of Now series in 2000. It was also recorded for National Public Radio.

Mr. D’Rivera is artist in residence at the NJPAC, and serves as member of the board of directors of many important artistic organizations in the US that influence classical and jazz styles alike. For ten years, he has been artistic director of the Festival International de Jazz en el Tambo in Uruguay.

Mr. D’Rivera’s book *My Sax Life* was published in Spain and is currently being translated into English, to be published by Northwestern University Press. It will also soon be available as an audio-book recorded in Spanish in Mr. D’Rivera’s own voice by Recorded Books. His novel *Oh, La Habana* is published in Spain by MTeditores, Barcelona.

In 1999, and in celebration of its 500 years’ history, the Universidad de Alcalá de Henares presented Mr. D’Rivera with a special award recognizing his contribution to the arts, his humane qualities, and his defense of rights and liberties for artists around the world.

Sérgio and Odair Assad are Brazilian-born brothers and today’s preeminent guitar duo. Their exceptional artistry and uncanny ensemble playing are the result of the unique closeness of their musical upbringing. In addition to setting new

performance standards, the Assads have also played a major role in reviving contemporary music for guitar duo. Their virtuosity has inspired a wide range of composers to write works for them: Astor Piazzolla, Terry Riley, Radamés Gnatalli, Marlos Nobre, Nikita Koshin, Roland Dyens, Dusan Bogdanovic, Jorge Morel, Edino Kreiger and Francisco Mignone. They have also been sought after as collaborators by such artists as Gidon Kremer, Yo-Yo Ma, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg and Dawn Upshaw.

The Assads began playing the guitar together at an early age and went on to study for seven years with classical guitarist and lutenist Monina Távora, a disciple of Andrés Segovia. Their international career began with a major prize at the 1979 young artists competition in Bratislava. Now based in Brussels and in Chicago (where Sérgio teaches at Roosevelt University’s Chicago College of Performing Arts), they continue to perform regularly in Europe and Japan as well as Brazil.

Their repertoire, in addition to the pieces composed for them, includes original music by Sérgio Assad; transcriptions of the great Baroque keyboard literature of Bach, Couperin, Rameau and Scarlatti; and adaptations of works by such diverse figures as Gershwin, Ginastera and Milhaud. Their programs are always a compelling blend of styles, periods and cultures.

The Assads have also recorded widely, primarily for the Nonesuch and GHA labels. In 2001 Nonesuch released *Sérgio and Odair Assad Play Piazzolla*, which won a Latin Grammy in September 2002. Other CDs include an album of Baroque works and *Saga dos Migrantes* for Nonesuch. They have recorded Piazzolla discs with Gidon Kremer (Nonesuch) and Yo-Yo Ma (Sony Classical), the latter a Grammy winner in 1998.

A Nonesuch collaboration with Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg in 2000 featured a collection of pieces based on traditional and Gypsy folk tunes from around the world. Since that recording the Assads and Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg have made three highly successful tours of the United States, displaying unique chemistry, amusing interplay and stunning virtuosity. In January 2003 the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and Music Director Andreas Delfs premiered a triple concerto written

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by Sérgio for the trio. The Seattle Symphony and Gerard Schwarz later performed it as well. Other highlights of 2002-03 included an 18-city tour as soloists with the Orquestra de São Paulo.

The Assad Brothers have again collaborated with Yo-Yo Ma on a CD that features many of the most revered artists from Brazil. Sérgio arranged several of the works on the disc. In the 2003-

04 season, the Assads performed with Mr. Ma at several summer festivals in the United States, followed by performances in Europe and Japan. In September 2003 they appeared along with Mr. Ma to participate in the opening of Carnegie's Zankel Hall. A documentary about the Assad family's talents has been featured on Brazilian television.

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