# CAL PERFORMANCES CELEBRATES THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF BOSSA NOVA WITH BRAZILIAN SUPERSTAR SINGER-COMPOSER <u>MILTON NASCIMENTO</u> & <u>THE JOBIM TRIO</u> SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2008 AT 8:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBACH HALL

**BERKELEY, September 24, 2008**—The sultry, smooth and swinging sound of Brazilian *bossa nova* will heat up the chill autumn air when Cal Performances brings the legendary Brazilian singing sensation **Milton Nascimento** to Berkeley on **Saturday, November 1** at **8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall**. The Grammy Award–winning Nascimento, praised for his "astounding emotional and technical slant" on Brazilian music (*Rolling Stone*) and beloved for his ethereal voice, melds jazz and Latin music with a big dose of steamy rhythmic intensity. Joining Nascimento onstage will be **The Jobim Trio**, featuring **Paulo** and **Daniel Jobim** (son and grandson of the *bossa nova* pioneer **Antonio Carlos Jobim**) and **Paulo Braga**, playing guitar, piano and percussion, respectively. The four musicians mark the 50th birthday of *bossa nova* with a new album, *Novas Bossas*, from which they will perform songs, and an international tour.

#### **MILTON NASCIMENTO**

Born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1942, **Milton Nascimento** was raised by his adoptive parents in Três Pontas, a small town in the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais. His mother sang in a choir led by the esteemed Brazilian classical composer Heitor Villa-Lobos, and his father taught math, studied the stars and ran a radio station where young Milton sometimes worked as a disc jockey. Nascimento began singing in his teens, and at age 19 he moved to Belo Horizonte, the capital of Minas Gerais, and began performing. A self-taught musician, Nascimento caught his first big break in 1966 when the Brazilian pop singer Elis Regina recorded one of his songs, *Canção do Sal*, and gave him a guest appearance on a popular Brazilian television show. A year later, his career was launched at Brazil's International Song Festival.

Although the initial heyday of *bossa nova* had passed by the mid-1960s, in his fourdecade career Nascimento has become known as one of its premier vocal interpreters. Nascimento played, sang and wrote with the creators of the distinctive Brazilian rhythmic style, including Jobim, Vinicius de Moraes and João Gilberto. Jobim called Nascimento his "true *uirapuru*" (a Brazilian bird known for its song) and asked him to someday record all of his compositions because Nascimento was the only singer who could sing them in their proper keys.

But the musical range of Nascimento's expressive *falsetto* voice extends beyond the *bossa nova*. An international musical icon, Nascimento has recorded some three dozen albums since 1968, including the Grammy-nominated *O Planeta Blue na Estrada do Sol* and *Angelus* (both in the mid-1990s). His 1997 recording *Nascimento* won a Grammy for Best World Music Album, and Nascimento has also won both the *Down Beat* International Critics Poll and the *Down Beat* Readers' Poll. He has toured in the United States, Europe, Asia and Latin America, and has collaborated with jazz and pop greats, including Paul Simon, Wayne Shorter, Herbie Hancock, Sarah Vaughan, George Duke, Pat Metheny and Duran Duran.

Nascimento's new album with The Jobim Trio, *Novas Bossas*, gathers together 14 *bossa novas*, including masterpieces of the genre as well as new compositions. "*Novas Bossas* is arguably Nascimento's best vocal performance in over a decade," writes John Bohannon on PopMatters.com. "Try finding anyone at the age of 66 that still has this kind of range—it's truly remarkable."

#### THE JOBIM TRIO

The Jobim Trio, formed in 2007, consists of guitarist **Paulo Jobim**, son of Antonio Carlos Jobim; his son **Daniel Jobim**, who plays piano; and drummer **Paulo Braga**. The trio first performed in public during a celebration of Jobim's 80th birthday in Rio de Janeiro, and vowed then to continue their musical collaboration. The result is the *Novas Bossas* album and an international tour with Milton Nascimento.

Paulo Jobim appeared as a musician on Nascimento's *Clube da Esquina 2* album and tour, and Nascimento has recorded several of Paulo Jobim's songs, including "Olho D'água." Paulo Jobim also provided artistic direction for a book that catalogs Nascimento's entire career. *Novas Bossas* includes the new song "Dias Azuis," written by pianist Daniel Jobim. Described as "a surprisingly fresh tune from the freshest mind," the song "brings the album a modern *Musica Populeira Brasilia* sound" (PopMatters.com).

The drummer in the Jobim Trio, Paulo Braga, has played with Nascimento since the early days of his career in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, in the 1960s. An artist "whose presence is always subtle, but substantial" (PopMatters.com), Braga is a veteran of countless recordings, performances and collaborations with many artists, including Eliane Elias, Vinicius Cantuária, John Pizzarelli and Abilio Abreu.

#### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Milton Nascimento** and the **Jobim Trio** on **Saturday**, **November 1**, **2008**, at **8:00 p.m.** in **Zellerbach Hall** are priced at \$36, \$48 and \$68. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988 or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperformances.org.

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced two hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10 for UCB students; \$15 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20 for all other community members. Information is available at (510) 642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, two hours prior to a performance only.

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## CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

### CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Saturday, November 1 at 8:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Campus Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

World Stage Milton Nascimento, vocals The Jobim Trio Paulo Jobim, guitar Daniel Jobim, piano Paulo Braga, percussion

**Program:** Grammy Award-winner Milton Nascimento shares the stage with the Jobim Trio in celebration of *bossa nova*'s 50th anniversary.

**Tickets:** \$36, \$48 and \$68, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door.

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