

Pedro Amorim – musician and composer

Born in Rio de Janeiro on the 20th of July, 1958, Pedro Amorim started his bandolim studies in 1978 as a self-taught artist. In 1983 he became a professional musician (bandolim, tenor-guitar, banjo and guitar) and recorded his first LP, called *João Pernambuco / 100 anos* with the group *Nó em pingo d'água*, which was edited by Funarte. In 1986 he travelled for the first time throughout Europe and during three consecutive months he performed in Paris, Poitiers and Nancy together with Maurício Carrilho and João de Aquino. He returned to Paris in 1988 and at this time performing with singer Teca Calazans and the french musicians - Jean-Charles Capon (violoncelo), Jean-Christophe Hoarau (guitar) e Yannick Le Goff (flute). With this group, Pedro travelled for ten months around the whole country promoting the Brazilian music. Back in Brazil, Pedro continues his performing and recording activities and in 1991 he flies off to Japan for the first time, leading the group formed by Maurício Carrilho, Luiz Otávio Braga, Marcos Suzano, Paulo Sérgio Santos and presenting the singer Itamara Koorax. In the following year, he returns to Japan for a tournée in several cities with Tutty Moreno and Paulo Malaguti replacing Marcos Suzano and Paulo Sérgio Santos. As a soloist of the National Symphonic Orchestra, Pedro performs the *Suite Retratos* by Radamés Gnattali, in 1993. In the same year he returns to Paris to record the CD *O Trio*, alongside Maurício Carrilho and Paulo Sérgio Santos. In 1994 this CD is released in Brazil by SACI and was awarded two prizes in the Sharp Prize of Music: best CD and best instrumental group of the year. In 1994 his CD *Pedro Amorim toca Lupercé Miranda*, was released in Europe and in Brazil.

During his career Pedro Amorim has been doing several researches about Brazilian music and has been performing alongside the best national and international musicians: shows and recordings with Elizeth Cardoso, Paulo Moura, Hermínio Bello de Carvalho, Turíbio Santos, Zezé Gonzaga, Ademilde Fonseca, Zezé Motta, Moreira da Silva, Chico Buarque, Maria Bethânia. Recently he played together with the great Japanese pianist Yosuke Yamashita at the Teatro Municipal de São Paulo and at the Golden Room at the Copacabana Palace Hotel in Rio de Janeiro. Pedro Amorim is a composer and among his partners he joins Paulo César Pinheiro, Wilson Moreira, Nelson Sargento, Maurício Carrilho and Délcio Carvalho. In 1998 he directed and played in the Project *Reverendo o Opinião* (re-inaugurating the Teatro de Arena de Copacabana) and he also took part in shows and CD's of many artists such as Moacyr Luz, Olívia Hime, Caetano Veloso e Chico Buarque. The latter a performance – tribute called *Chico Buarque de Mangueira*, which was presented in Canecão - Rio de Janeiro and in Palace – São Paulo. In August, 2000 Pedro Amorim returned to Japan to release the CD *Arranca-toco*, which was recorded together with Maurício Carrilho, Jorginho do Pandeiro e Nailor Proveta. In 2001 went to Denmark to take part in the Copenhagen Jazz Festival together with Luciana Rabello, Celsinho Silva, Proveta e Maurício Carrilho. Pedro Amorim is a professor of the Escola Portátil de Música – Choro workshops of the University of Rio de Janeiro – and he also teaches in several didactic events in Brazil and other countries such as in Japan, where he released the CD *Os Cinco no Choro*, which was conceived and recorded aiming the broadcast of *choro* in that country. Pedro is one of the members of the Acari Studio, where he had accomplished the recording of his own CD *Violão Tenor*, entirely dedicated to this instrument. Together with the quartet Samba de Fato and the singer Cristina Buarque, he released the album called *O samba informal de Mauro Duarte*, which was dedicated to this sambist. Pedro took part in the *África y su Diáspora* Festival, in Cuba and in the same year went to Montpellier, France, performing in the *Mandolines de Lunel* Festival. Pedro Amorim is preparing his new album *Voz Nagô*, which includes his afro-sambas songs he composed together with Paulo César Pinheiro.

