

sergio pedroza

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MRB

BRAZILIAN ROMANTIC
MUSIC



"I could not sing and play at the same time"

Sergio Pedroza, the Brazilian vocalist, with his velvet voice gives us his first solo CD. He interprets songs of his friends from Niterói.

Sergio resides in San Francisco, California since April 16th, 1985. After being involved in a car accident in 1989, he was very reluctant to return to the music scene, but the late Stan Getz after hearing him sing at Yoshi's, in Oakland, California, advised him to keep trying and never quit. This is exactly what he did.

Somos Assim is pop and full of beautiful Brazilian ballads with a touch of jazz, produced by the San Franciscan keyboardist and producer Jay Wagner.

He grew up in Niterói, with a military father and mother who was a math teacher. At the age of five he would not miss a single Sunday church service where he would "help" the choir conductor, who would step back making him believe he was in complete charge of the

choir. He started on the saxophone but quit on after the first week lesson. "I could not sing and play at the same time", he said. He then started playing the "bataques" percussion, a natural step for him since he was a very big fan of Samba and Bossa Nova. Later on he became the lead singer of Grupo Acordes, a band that would pack parties and theaters. He has fond memories of the time he spent performing at festivals, clubs, piano bars, recording jingles and sessions as a back vocalist for several Brazilian names.

After getting his Economics degree and undecided if he wanted to pursue a Ph.D., he decided to visit the US to specialize in English teaching to help kids in Brazil. Little did he know he would have all his savings, for his education in the US, taking from him in a hotel in the Tenderloin, a downtown area of San Francisco. Friendless, penniless and almost homeless, he finally managed to make some contacts that brought him to San Anselmo. He was offered a job as janitor and a

living space in the back of the Laundromat. Many of those lonely nights he had only the company of a small radio that he used to listen to as much English as he could. This is the Brazilian Sergio Pedroza but in reality he is San Francisco's Sergio Pedroza.



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