

CLAUDIO RODITI

Biography

Integrating post-bop elements and Brazilian rhythmic concepts into his palette with ease, Grammy-nominee Claudio Roditi plays with power and lyricism. This versatility keeps the trumpeter in demand as a performer, recording artist and teacher. As Zan Stewart, jazz reviewer for the *Star-Ledger*, observed, “‘Master musician’ is the term that comes to mind when discussing trumpeter, flügelhornist and composer Claudio Roditi.”

Born in 1946 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Roditi began his musical studies when he was just six years old. By the time he was twelve, he had already become a serious jazz listener. In 1966, he was named a finalist at the International Jazz Competition in Vienna, Austria. While in Vienna, Roditi met Art Farmer, one of his idols, and the friendship inspired the younger trumpeter to follow a career in jazz. He has since performed and recorded with many jazz greats, including Dizzy Gillespie, Herbie Mann, Joe Henderson, Horace Silver, McCoy Tyner, Tito Puente, and Paquito D’Rivera.

With twenty-four critically acclaimed albums to his credit, Claudio Roditi continually develops his playing and compositions through new recording projects. His last release on the Resonance label, BONS AMIGOS (HCD 2010), features several Roditi originals (*Bossa de Mank*, *Piccolo Samba*, and the driving, straight-ahead tune, *Levitation*) framed by seven compositions written by Brazilian masters such as Antonio Carlos Jobim, Johnny Alf, guitarist/composer Toninho Horta, and pianist Eliane Elias.

“Bons amigos” translates as “good friends” in English, and the line-up of musicians on this disk includes good musical friends of Roditi’s: the exceptional Brazilian guitarist Romero Lubambo, the gifted Brazilian new-comer drummer/percussionist Mauricio Zottarelli, making his first recording with Roditi on BONS AMIGOS. Donald Vega, the superb Nicaraguan pianist, and the fine Italian bassist Marco Panascia have both become new musical friends through the creation of this beautiful CD. Arrangements by L.A. pianist Tamir Hendelman add polish to the entire musical picture.

Roditi’s BRAZILLIANCE x 4 (HCD 2002) earned him a Grammy nomination, in 2009, in the Best Latin Jazz Album category. This dynamic CD, also released on the Resonance label, features four Roditi originals as well as masterful compositions by some of his favorite Brazilian musicians/songwriters. BRAZILLIANCE also highlights the playing of three younger master Brazilian musicians who live in the United States: Helio Alves on piano, Leonardo Cioglia on bass, and Duduka da Fonseca on drums.

A lifelong passion for the trumpet gives Claudio Roditi an open spirit for music. This fuels an ongoing search for personal expression and musical perfection. As Neil Tesser of the *Chicago Reader* wrote, “. . . I can think of only a handful of modern trumpeters who combine brain and soul, technique and wisdom in a way that matches Roditi’s.”