

Press Release

Bloco Explosão's new CD out January 2014 - Berlin´s Afro-Samba-Mix with a twist

Title: "Bloco Explosão plus Friends & Band" Studio Recording
Label: twonineteen records LC02285 GEMA © Volker Conrath 2013
Producers: Volker Conrath, Georg Pfister, Till Rotter
Mix: Till Rotter

The prizewinning group from the famous "Berlin Karneval der Kulturen" Bloco Explosão is an internationally acclaimed Afro-Samba group from Berlin. (www.blocoexplosao.de)

Following the first, percussion-only CD "Berlin perkussiv", our new CD features '**Bloco Explosão plus Friends & Band**', playing original compositions as well as Brazilian and Afro-Classics. It is combining ethnic roots, the rhythms of Salvador da Bahia's Afro Blocos and Afro-Brazilian and American Pop, with just a hint of Jazz and embedded nicely into our trademark Berlin Samba sound.

This is not just a further wannabe copy of Brazil Samba, but an original style, created with love and passion, full of new ideas in Ethno music, fresh and modern in sound and arrangement, without denying its roots.

This music makes you want to dance. Have a listen, bring this sound to the party of your choice, and let yourself be inspired by the power and joyfulness of Bloco Explosão.

Lineup:

Up to 30 percussionists and numerous guest musicians play under Volker Conrath's musical direction. We're especially proud to be able to feature Mestres of Bahia's three most well-known Afro-Blocos on this CD:

- Ilê Aiyê's **Marivaldo Paim** (known for his work with Arto Lindsay, among others)
- Olodum's **Memeu Nunes** (known for his cooperation with Paul Simon and Michael Jackson)
- Muzenza's **Mario Bomba**

Guest musician from Rio de Janeiro:

- **Jovi Joviniano**, (known for his work with Baticum, Fernanda Abreu, Marisa Monte)

Furthermore the CD features the best the Berlin music scene has to offer:

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| - Renato Pantera (Rio de Janeiro/Berlin): | Vocals, Guitar |
| - Hans Limburg † : | Vocals, Guitar |
| - Gui † (Rio de Janeiro/Berlin): | Bass |
| - Georg Pfister, Oliver Fox and Thomas Walter Maria: | Saxophones, Flute |
| - Jan Gropper and Greg Ambrosine: | Trumpet |
| - Martin Hänsel: | Solo Guitar |

Title listing:

13 Titles: 40 minutes total playing time

10 original compositions, 3 covers with original arrangements

Title, (Basic groove), composition (oc = original composition)

- **Paz e Amor** (Funky Berlin Groove), *oc*
- **Feiticeira Reggae** (Jamaica-Bahia-Berlin connection), *oc*
- **Pata Pata** (Funky Berlin Groove), Miriam Makeba
- **Preto Velho** (mystic-*powerful*, influenced by afro-bras. Candomblé religion), *oc*
- **Eu sou lemy** (Afro-Samba, inspired by Ilê Aiyê), *oc*
- **Olhos Coloridos** (Funky-Pop), *Macau*
- **Toda menina Bahiana** (Samba-Pop) Gilberto Gil
- **Ganz Genau** (Funky Berlin-Sound with German chorus), *oc*
- **Trash for Fantasy** (Funky Instrumental, regards to J. Brown), *oc*
- **Cantar** (Afro-Samba / Poetic Samba), *oc*

Bonus Tracks:

- **Berlin Funk** (Funky, all percussion) *oc*
- **Sonho do Timbal** (Samba Reggae, all percussion), *oc*
- **Passaro do Carnaval** (Afro-Samba), *oc*

Both CDs are available through iTunes, and other music platforms. The physical CD can be ordered through our website.

Contact Information:

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Coverart and fotos can be downloaded from our website under www.blocoexplosao.de/index.php?q=bloco-audiocd.html.

Please direct your requests for further listening examples or interviews to the email address above. Please contact me by email only from January 9th to February 23rd 2014 while I'm in Brazil. Interviews by phone are still possible.

Additional contact during my period of absence:

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