

Marco Antonio da Costa – Guitarrist, Composer, Arranger, Singer

Marco Antonio da Costa is a Brazilian Guitar Player, Singer, Composer and Arranger based in Vienna, Austria. He has been building a career in Europe with various projects of his own and he has been involved with various artists and orchestras such as: Zagreb Jazz Orchestra, HGM Jazz Orchestra, Jatoba Latin Big Band, Luis Bonilla, Fay Classen, Caroline de Rooij,.

Marco Antônio da Costa was born in Natal – Rio Grande do Norte - Brazil. He began playing and studying classical piano at the age of 5, 8 years later he started the guitar and dedicated himself to the instrument. At the age of 17, he began studying electric guitar with Joca Costa and Manoca Barreto, two renowned and recognized guitarists from his home city, Natal. He has since become a professional musician

After completing his musical studies at the Music Conservatoire of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN) in 2004, he decided to expand his knowledge of the piano and began to specialize himself extensively in the field of jazz and Brazilian music (Musica Popular Brasileira). Since then, Marco Antônio da Costa played at various jazz festivals in Brazil, for example, at the " Papary Jazz Festival " in Rio Grande do Norte state, the " Cascavel Jazz Festival" in Cascavel - Paraná state and many others. While in Brazil , he was taught by some of the finest Brazilian musicians such as Lula Galvão (guitar) , Nelson Faria (guitar) , Alexandre Carvalho (guitar) , Fernando Correa (Guitar) , Jarbas Barbosa (guitar) Vitor Santos (Arranging) , Daniel Maudonnet (Piano and Arranging) , Rafael dos Santos (Piano and Arranging) , Waldemar Ernesto (piano) .

In 2005 he went to live in São Paulo for further musical studies at the College "Souza Lima & Berklee". That year he received a scholarship from the Berklee College of Music in Boston. However he decided to go back to his hometown and continue playing. In Natal - Brazil, he has been very active in many musical works and has performed extensively with the local scene with artists such as: Antonio de Pádua , Liz Rosa , Camila Masiso, Rosana , Erick From Sohsten , Simona Talma , Diana Cravo , Base Livre, Kassava, and many others.

During the years 2006 and 2007 he toured South America playing with the "Companhia musical Sobre as Ondas" at CVC's Cruise Ships. In 2008, Marco Antônio da Costa toured with "Diogo Guanabara Macaxeira & Jazz" in Japan and Holand. In 2009, he was with the band again and they went on a European tour .

Since 2008 Marco Antônio da Costa has been in Graz – Austria. He went to the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz (Kunstuniversität Graz) to study jazz guitar with Guido Jeszensky and Composition/Arrangement with Ed. Partika and Ed Neumeister. In the following years he also studied Conducting with Sigi Feigl and Composition and Conducting with Michael Abene. In Graz marco had the opportunity to attend innumerous workshops and lessons with World top jazz players such as: Bob Mintzer, John Abercrombie, Wolfgang Muthspiel, Peter Bernstein. In addition to his studies, he traveled to perform in Europe with various bands, with styles ranging from pop, jazz to Latin American music. Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary, Belgium, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Italy, Germany and Holand are the countries he would travel in the following years with different musical projects, such as with the following artist and bands: Zvezdana Novakovic, Caroline de Rooij, Laura Lenhardt, Duo Aimenda, Maja Savic, Florian Zack Band, Ohr Geld Rio, Braziluka, Kitanda Mangaio, Duo Samambaia, Beto Dourah, Daniela Procopio, Maïke den Dunnen, Marco Antonio da Costa Group among many other musical projects.

During May, 2010 Marco Antônio da Costa released his first ALBUM "Painel" with 12 original titles, later that year he performed, composed and arranged the Austrian Singer Katja Cruz's album "Mii Corazon". In 2011, he toured again in Europe and Japan . In 2012 Marco Antonio da Costa finished his bachelor in Graz with honors. Various projects received

International attention thanks to Marco Antonio da Costa, : " Antonio de Pádua Band" ; Quarteto " Na Maré " ; Quartet " Diogo Guanabara Macaxeira & Jazz" , Jatoba Latin Big Band "and" Marco Antonio da Costa Group ". With his band , he won the "Down Beat Student Music Awards" 2012 and the "DOWN BEAT Student Music Awards 2014" as the " Best Latin Group" and „Outstanding Musical Performance“ from the famous American magazine DOWNBEAT.

In 2013 he founded his " organ trio" , with the Austrian organist Fabian Supancic, the drummer from Brazil Matheus Jardim and as occasional guest the organist from USA Rob Bargad. He went on tour in China and Taiwan that year with the Brazilian singer Liz Rosa and Bossa Negra Band. In 2014 Marco completed his Master's degree in Jazz Guitar at the University of Music and Dramatic Arts Graz again with honors. The album he recorded that year with the HGM Jazz Orkestar Zagreb won the "Porin" prize as the "Best Jazz Album of 2014" released in Croatia. That year he went on tour in Vietnam with the Brazilian singer Celia Mara.

In april 2015 Marco released his second album „THE SHIFT“and went on a european tour. He is working on the debut album of his duo „Aimenda“with the german singer „Laura Lenhardt. Marco Antonio da Costa has worked as a musician, composer and arranger in many projects, tours, television shows and recordings with the following artist and orchestras. „Diogo Guanabara & Macaxeira Jazz“; „Antonio de Pádua“; „Zvezdana Novakovic“; „Liz Rosa“; „Erick Von Sohsten“; „Natalie Krainer“; „Katja Cruz“; „Camila Masiso“;„Dick Oatts“ „John Hollenbeck“, „Don Menza“, „Fay Claasen“, „Miguel Zenon“, „Mike Holober“,„Luis Bonilla“, „KUG Jazz Orchestra“ „Jatobá Latin Big Band“; „HGM Jazz Orchestra Zagreb“, „Wiener Tschtschenkapelle“, „Zagreb Jazzorkestar“.

Marco Antonio da Costa also worked in the last 10 years as a music teacher, teaching workshops in music schools, conservatoires and schools such as:

- 1 year as guitar teacher at the Music Conservatoire of the University of RN – (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte) 2004 -2005
- History of Jazz and Brazilian Music teacher at the Cruise Ship company CVC Kreuz Schiff Entertainment company 2006 – 2007
- 1 month Brazilian Music Workshops in Japan (Tokyo, Yokohama, Hamamatsu) – 2008
- 2 days workshops on Brazilian Music at the Afroasiatische Institut Graz - 2009
- 1 week Brazilian music workshop in Japan (Tokyo) – 2011
- Organization of workshops with Brazilian musicians in Graz - Austria (with Jurandir Santana and Marcio Dhiniz) – 2012
- Organization of Workshops about composition, ear training and Brazilian Styles at the University of Music and Dramatic Arts Graz (with Antonio de Padua) – 2013
- 1 Semester Ensemble Workshops about Brazilian Ensemble with Rob Bargad at Konservatorium Klagenfurt - 2014
- Workshops about Latin Ensemble, Latin Rhythms and Brazilian Ensembles for teachers and students of the Villach Musik Schule – 2015