

Born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to an American father and Brazilian mother, **Richard Miller**'s recent concerts include a special performance for Pope Francis and a White House performance for President Obama. He has played in such esteemed concert halls such as Strathmore Hall, Kennedy Center, and Merkin Hall; as well as jazz clubs in New York City and Washington DC. As a teacher and lecturer he has given workshops and classes at Texas Southern University, University of Florida, Georgetown University, Baruch College, College of Charleston, James Madison University, UPenn, and NYU, among many others.

Richard earned a Ph. D. in Music Theory from the Catholic University of America and a Masters in Guitar Performance from the Manhattan School of Music. He currently teaches music theory and ear training at Columbia University and is the Director of Education Programs for the Afro-Latin Jazz Alliance. His dissertation "The Guitar in the Brazilian Choro" was recently published by Lambert Academic Publishing.

Hailed as "an ambassador of Brazilian music" by The Washington Post, **Joao Paulo Figueiroa** is recognized as a foremost interpreter of music from Brazil. João Paulo has performed solo and with orchestra throughout the United States and South America in guitar festivals, on television and radio broadcasts. His appearances includes performances at the Kennedy Center and Sala do Coro do Teatro.

Joao is Executive Director of Marlow Guitar International, and head of Guitar Studies at The Catholic University of America.

Born in Saquarema, a small beach town north of Rio de Janeiro, **Débora Watts** grew up believing she was going to be a scientist, but half way through her master's degree in Organic Chemistry, Débora decided to leave science to explore life outside the lab. After a year of traveling from Peru to India, Débora moved to New York City. There, upon hearing Brazilian music performed at the legendary club "Cafe Wha?" Débora realized that her true dream was to be a singer.

Within a few short years, Débora was performing as a solo artist, and with Brazilian and Latin bands, performing samba, Brazilian and Latin jazz, and bossa nova, around New York City and beyond. She has recently recorded her second CD, or original compositions.