

MAFALDA MINNOZZI & PAUL RICCI

MAFALDA MINNOZZI & PAUL RICCI The [eMPathia Jazz Duo](#) composed of vocalist [Mafalda Minnozzi](#) and guitarist [Paul Ricci](#) create spontaneous melodic variations improvised around popular songs while uniquely arranging harmonic templates shifting accordingly to the pacing and breathing of the moment. Drawing from the vast experience of both the duo's artists, their present day popular song is expanded to include classics from Brazil, Italy, France and the U.S.A. Italian born singer Minnozzi has an impressive recording career predominantly in Brazil where for over 20 years she has made a name for herself. Her extensive touring throughout Brazil has established her as a remarkably charismatic and powerful stage performer with a vocal extension and versatile timbral palette that blurs the line between singer and improvisational soloist. From her command of Portuguese and the credibility and respect she earned from inside the Brazilian music scene, Mafalda was granted the artistic license to sing Bossa Nova there in many of the theaters and clubs traditionally reserved for that genre, winning over some of the most demanding musicians and audiences. Completing the duo is Paul Ricci, a NY guitarist who has worked mostly in Brazil for the past 20 years but comes from the NY scene as far back as the 80's playing with Jaki Byard, Mike Clark, Harold Vick, Dennis Irwin, Larry Willis and countless other noted sidemen. Also experienced in Brazilian, Latin and African music he collaborated with Astrud Gilberto, Edison Machado, Dom Um Romao, Bebel Gilberto, Bobby Sanabria, Harry Belafonte and recorded with Steve Jordan, Randy Brecker, Anthony Jackson and Manolo Badrena among others. His experience and inventive use of all these rhythms on jazz, acoustic and baritone guitars result in an impressive and powerful orchestral concept on guitar that together with Minnozzi's experience in popular song result in something truly their own. "They create an orchestra between the two of them. It's not one person and the other, it's in between them." - Jeff Jones