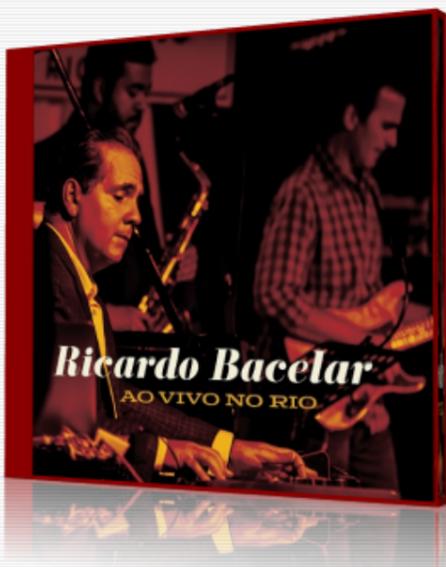


# Ricardo Bacelar

## AO VIVO NO RIO



The discography of Brazilian composer and pianist Ricardo Bacelar is still manageable. After his debut album *In Natura* (2001), followed *Concerto para Moviola* (Concerto for Moviola), a live album, recorded in 2015 during the Guaramiranga Jazz and Blues Festival at the Via Sul Theater, Fortaleza, Ceara, Brazil, and *Sebastiana* (2018). Now he returns with his second live album recorded in May 2018 at The Blue Note in Rio, Brazil aptly titled *Ao Vivo No Rio* (*Live In Rio*).

Ricardo was accompanied by guitarist João Castilho, saxophonist and flutist Danilo Sina, double bassist Alexandre Katatau, drummer Renato Endrigo and percussionist André Siqueira. Most of the repertoire of the live album covers compositions of the groundbreaking Brazilian musicians Milton Nascimento, Tom Jobim, Gilberto Gil, Flora Purim along with American greats Benny Golson, Horace Silver, Pat Metheny and Chick Corea.

Ricardo considers his album, which was recorded in the intimate circle of the 300-seat Blue Note, an incentive to return to live performances after the end of the pandemic. Ricardo comments: "People need the warm sound and feelings of live music as opposed to the electronic stuff we hear on studio recordings. By listening to this live album, you can embrace the warm sound from the safety and comfort of your home."

The set starts with *Killer Joe*, a jazz standard composed by Benny Golson in 1954 and recorded for the first time on the album *Flyin' Home* by the jazz vibraphonist Lionel Hampton. The song gives wide room for all musicians to shine through brilliant solos. *Toda Menina Baiana* is a song by Gilberto Gil written in 1979. Its title, in Portuguese, means "all the young girls from Bahia". Gilberto wrote it for his daughter, Nara. The song appears in the album *Realce*. From simple Brazilian pop music Bacelar develops a high class jazzitude.

*Nada Será Como Antes* (*Nothing Will Be Like Before*) was composed by Milton Nascimento as a member of the group Clube da Esquina recording the same titled double album in 1972. In my opinion, the cover version featuring Bacelar in a duet with Brazilian vocalist-pianist Delia Fischer is more authentic than the original. *Señor Blues* is a bluesy lowdown composition by Horace Silver originally recorded in 1956. Bacelar's modern transition is on the high of its time.

*Partido Alto* is a type of Samba with two dueling singers. In this case the original features Airto Moreira and Flora Purim on their album *The Colours of Life* in 1988. The melody is great enough to serve as a blueprint for Bacelar and his amazing crew. *So May It Secretly Begin* by the Pat Metheny from the 1987 album *Still Life (Talking)* is an outstanding challenge against which every musician can measure himself. The mastery and accentuation of this piece shows the true greatness of Bacelar and his formation.

It is certainly to the credit of Bacelar to have brought Nascimento's song *Caicó Cantiga* into a jazzy overall context. Sure, who doesn't know Antonio Carlos Jobim's *Agua de Beber*? Bacelar rewinds the piece with routine. *Sernambetiba* is a creation by Bacelar in collaboration with Cesar Lemos from his album *Sebastiana*. Bacelar presents himself as a charming chansonnier and elegant pianist.

*Naná* is a song by Moacir Santos from the album *Maestro* (1972). Bacelar's instrumental alternative brings new freshness to the song. *Blue Miles* is the final tune on this album, originally by Chick Corea from his album *Paint The World* (1993). Rocky from the first impression Bacelar's group powerfully goes into jazz fusion.

Many tracks released on this album can also be found on Bacelar's first live album *Concerto para Moviola*. Nevertheless, it is phenomenal how much the location affects the sound. The saying, the difference makes the music gets a completely new meaning in this case. An all around recommendable album.

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### Additional information

[Website](#)

[Biography](#)

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Album Information

Title: Live In Rio  
Artist: Ricardo Bacelar  
Year: 2020  
Genre: Latin Jazz  
Label: Bacelar Productions

Tracks:

- 1) Killer Joe (4:10)
- 2) Toda Menina Baiana (4:28)
- 3) Nada Será Como Antes (5:53)
- 4) Señor Blues (4:43)
- 5) Partido Alto (4:40)
- 6) So May It Secretly Begin (6:28)
- 7) Caicó Cantiga (4:29)
- 8) Agua de Beber (4:11)
- 9) Sernambetiba 5:00)
- 10) Nanã (4:56)
- 11) Blue Miles (6:41)

Further review:

Sebastiana