



Augusto Martins

A voice. And what a voice. One of those rare ones you come across here and there. With his rich, deep sound, broad tonal range, and elegant improvisations, Augusto Martins is a carioca who knows how to combine the swing of Rio's samba jams with the classic technique of a trained singer. He began with the acoustic guitar, later studying piano and then continuing his musical education by learning how to accompany himself on the pandeiro. He refined his singing skills with three years of voice lessons with the renowned singer and voice teacher Clara Sandroni, in addition to taking lessons with Ângela Herz and other voice coaches, giving him a multifaceted approach to what he knows how to do best, which is to sing.

A singer, composer, writer and poet, he began his artistic career singing in nightclubs and at student festivals in Rio de Janeiro.



In 1997 he released his first CD "**Augusto Martins**", on the Dabliú Discos label, which included his singular interpretations of "Cordas de Aço" (Cartola) and "Mistério da Raça" (Luiz Melodia), as well as compositions by Gonzaguinha, Baden Powell, Dori Caymmi and Chico Buarque. On this recording, he was backed by established Brazilian musicians such as Paulo Malaguti, Vittor Santos, Marcelo Bernardes, Luiz Alves, Ovídio Brito and Dirceu Leite, and the liner notes included an endorsement and introduction from Beth Carvalho. Following

the release of his first recording, he performed frequently in Rio and São Paulo, in addition to making appearances in Belo Horizonte and Brasília, supported by artistic direction from Túlio Feliciano. Some of the notable venues he appeared at in Rio included the Teatro Rival, Teatro Carlos Gomes, Mistura Fina, Sala Baden Powell, Tetro Café Pequeno, Carioca da Gema, Terraço Rio Sul (Projeto Novo Canto, with Leila Pinheiro as a guest artist), Estrela da Lapa, Rio Scenarium, Hipódromo Up, Vinicius Piano Bar, Merci, Sala Funarte, Cinemathèque, and the Centro Cultural da Light, among others. In São Paulo he performed at Tom Jazz (together with João Donato), Supremo Musical, SESC Ipiranga (in the Antenas do Ipiranga project performing with João Nogueira), SESC Vila Mariana (for the release of the compilation CD Gema do Novo) and SESC Pompéia, with the Velha Guarda da Mangueira.



In 1998, he was included on the disc “Gema do novo,” compiled by the São Paulo radio station Rádio Musical FM, together with recordings by other new artists such as Zeca Baleiro, Belô Veloso, Pedro Mariano and Rita Ribeiro. During this same year, he had a track included on the CD “Novo canto,” produced by the Rio de Janeiro radio station JB FM. Also in 1998, he performed in the “Projeto Novo Canto no Terraço Rio Sul” series, in a pairing with singer Leila Pinheiro. The next year, in 1999, he was a special guest artist on the recording “Velha Guarda da Mangueira and friends,” along with Lenine and Fernanda Abreu, among other artists. That same year, he joined João Nogueira for the show “Antenas do Ipiranga - SESC Ipiranga,” in São Paulo. In 2002, Augusto released the CD “**Canta Djavan**” (Dabliú Discos), featuring his own interpretations of the music of the Alagoan composer Djavan. The recording included the songs “Flor de lis,” “Sina,” “Azul,” “Pedro Brasil,” and “Outono,” as well as performances by guest artists Beth Carvalho, Leila Pinheiro, Fátima Guedes, João Donato, Aquarela Carioca, Seu Jorge and Yamandú Costa. The initial release concert for this recording, at the Teatro Rival in Rio de Janeiro, included guest appearances by Seu Jorge and Fátima Guedes. From 2002 through 2005 his recordings were included in five compilations of Brazilian music: three in Japan, one in France and one in England.

In 2007, he released “**No meio da banda**” on the Fina Flor label. This CD featured previously unreleased material written by Augusto himself as well as by other composers including Ivan Lins, Eduardo Gudin, João Donato, Fátima Guedes, Elisa Lucinda and Fred Martins. The recording also was graced with the participation of top musicians such as João Donato, Moacyr Luz, Otto and Fred Martins.



In 2008, he put together the show “Meio da Banda,” with a show at the Teatro do Tom Jazz, in São Paulo, that was highlighted by the inclusion of his special guest João Donato.

In 2010, Augusto was a part of the DVD “Homenagens - Velha Guarda da Mangueira”, recorded at the Teatro Carlos Gomes, in Rio de Janeiro.

In 2009, he released a book of his own poetry “A emoção como método de trabalho” (Editora Sette Letras). From 2009 through 2011, Augusto was the curator and artistic director of “Projeto Sete em Ponto,” sponsored by the Rio de Janeiro Municipal Secretary of Culture and held at the Teatro Carlos Gomes. In a series of 82 concerts, more than 25,000 people were able to see and hear established names and new talents from the Brazilian music scene including: Martinho da Vila, João Bosco, Moska, Dominginhos, Alcione, João Donato, Edu Krieger, Ana Costa, D. Ivone Lara, João Donato, Fred Martins, Arlindo Cruz, Dorina, Diogo Nogueira, and Yamandú Costa, in addition to many others.



In 2011, he released the CD “**Samba Popular Brasileiro**” within a performance at Teatro SESI, in Rio de Janeiro, with musical direction by Josimar Monteiro. On this CD he put his personal stamp on “Passarela” (Carlos Dafé), “Samba do Avião” (Tom Jobim), “Dois de Fevereiro” (Dorival Caymmi), “Consolação” (Baden Powell and Vinicius de Moraes), and other gems from the pantheon of Brazilian samba with support from such highly-regarded musician as Almeida Hulk (cavaquinho), Zé Paulo Becker (acoustic guitar) and Roberto Marques (trombone).

In the year 2012, together with Jorge Vercillo, Nélon Sargento, Elba Ramalho, Lenine and Sandra de Sá, he was a guest of the Velha Guarda da Mangueira and took part in the recording of the CD “Homenagens - Volume 2,” appearing on a track with Mocinho, Tia Zélia and Erivah, and at the CD release concert at Teatro Rival Petrobras, in Rio de Janeiro.

Currently, Augusto is promoting the release of his fifth recording, “**Felizes Trópicos**”, (Fina Flor) which was a partnership with Orquestra Criôla. This CD features repertoire that is totally new, with previously unrecorded songs from both new and established composers including João Donato, Joyce, Francis Hime and Fred Martins, as well as from Augusto himself, and includes performances by Moska and João Donato.



Talking about Augusto Martins, Beth Carvalho states: “Augusto Martins came to stay and to fill a void in our country of strong male interpreters. He’s ready. With a beautiful timbre to his voice, good taste, musicality, sensitivity, awareness of what he is singing and genuine Brazilianness. Cheers to Augusto Martins, symbol of peace.”

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