Walter Wanderley - Hammond Bossa From Brazil (2007)

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01 - Cried, Cried (Chorou, Chorou) <u>play</u> 02 - Take a Chance with Me 03 - A Different Beat (featuring Luiz Henrique) 04 - Mar Amar 05 - So Nice (Summer Samba) (featuring Astrud Gilberto) 06 - Beloved Melancholy (Saudade Querida) 07 - Errinho à Toa 08 - Here's That Rainy Day (featuring Astrud Gilberto) 09 - Você e eu 10 - In My Automobile (featuring Luiz Henrique) 11 - It Hurts to Say Goodbye

<u>play</u>

12 - It's a Lovely Day Today (featuring Astrud Gilberto) 13 - Sensuous 14 - O Menino Desce o Morro 15 - Cabaret (featuring Luiz Henrique) 16 - On the South Side of Chicago 17 - Menino das Laranjas 18 - Minha Saudade

Back in the dim and proverbially misty days of antiquity when CDs were the latest newfangled thing, I found Walter Wanderley's album Rain Forest on the Verve label. His signature juicy, fat Hammond organ sound, smack in the middle of the great bossa nova tradition, delighted me. The album quickly became a favorite.

For all these years I've been looking for a worthy sequel to RAIN FOREST. There was a collection from Verve that came out to ride the "cocktail music" wave that sloshed through, 10 or 20 years ago now, but it didn't suit. (I'm sorry to admit it, but I'm not especially charmed by his Fender Rhodes playing.) There was a collection of recordings Mr. Wanderley made in Germany (if I recall correctly), but those tunes lacked the polished pop production and arrangement that had helped make RAIN FOREST so much fun.

Finally this HAMMOND BOSSA FROM BRASIL album has hit the sweet spot. There are tunes I've never heard before and all the polished poppiness any fan could ask. In the iTunes era, I haven't even heard the whole album yet, much less made it a dear friend, but every time one of

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the cuts has come up on my "Fresh" playlist, I've been delighted. So I think this one, finally, is the album which for all these years we RAIN FOREST fans have been waiting. ---Steve Smooth, amazon.com

Walter José Wanderley Mendonça was born in Recife/Brazil in 1932. At the early age of 5 he started taking lessons at the piano, at age 12 studying musical theory. Well before he was out of his teens he moved to São Paulo and began his musical career playing the piano. Only some time later Walter found the organ to be his favorite instrument. He adopted samba and bolero rhythms and interpreted well known songs in his own melodic and harmonic way.

Brazil in the early 60's discovered the bossa nova - a huge wave swept over the country, and also Walter Wanderley was enlightened by this fever. He got one of the leading bossa nova musicians, made recordings with João Gilberto in 1961 and much more on his on. It was Tony Bennett who persuaded Walter to take off for New York in 1966. Bossa nova artists like Stan Getz, Antônio Carlos Jobim and Astrud Gilberto had provided their label Verve with huge successes. Wanderley joined in and became the Boss of the Bossa Nova. One of his songs, "Summer Samba", reached no. 26 on the pop hit ladder.

In the course of the 70's, the bossa nova fever found its end, and also the career of Walter Wanderley. He died, nearly forgotten, in San Francisco/USA on 04 september 1986.

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