



nosso carnaval gaia wilmer sextet

for immediate release:

YB MUSIC TO RELEASE  
Gaia Wilmer Sextet:  
**NOSSO CARNAVAL**

The Gaia Wilmer Sextet: **Maiara Moraes** – flute; **Josué dos Santos** – soprano and tenor saxophones and flute; **Gaia Wilmer** – alto saxophone; **Fábio Leal** – electric guitar; **Fi Maróstica** – electric and upright bass; **Cleber Almeida** – drums; **Tatiana Parra** – special guest (voice).

*“The illusion of a free-ranging approach to form and style is one of the most alluring aspects of Migrations a superb album by the composer and saxophonist Gaia Wilmer. (...) But be warned not to expect a traditional, folkloric-sounding set of songs. This is not the music of conservatoire either. Rather it is a wonderfully dreamy journey into the mind of a very talented composer.” - Raul da Gama, Jazz da Gama (on Wilmer’s Migrations)*

*“Gaia Petrelli Wilmer is a highly original, visionary composer/instrumentalist. Her music is unique, soulful, plaintive, mysterious, organic, and flat out beautiful. She also makes use of drums and percussion in a very unusual, creative way, which I appreciate. Many young musicians I hear are impressive, few really move me and touch my heart like Gaia’s music does. Bravo.” - Ra-Kalam Bob Moses*

**NOSSO CARNAVAL** is the second album of Brazilian composer and saxophonist Gaia Wilmer as a leader, an emerging voice in the contemporary jazz community. Drawing inspiration from Brazilian music, its harmonies, rhythms and melodies, and from jazz, Gaia creates a unique and colorful world of music that is both cerebral and emotional. Her music draws inspiration from composers such as Hermeto Pascoal, Egberto Gismonti and Guillermo Klein, and the pieces generate their shapes and feelings from Brazilian traditional genres, creating unusual textures and leaving space for each musician to express their own musicality and view of Brazilian culture.

This project is the result of Gaia’s desire in creating musical spaces to explore her influences and interests while always maintaining her focus in the Brazilian folk traditions, using the traditional language as a start, as a foundation. Therefore, combining her experience as a composer, her knowledge of Brazilian music, and the deep connection of the musicians with Brazilian culture and music, this work aims to create musical journeys that have Brazil as their starting and arrival points but that moves freely through unexpected places.

In these pieces, choro, samba, baião, afoxé and other genres are presented with new harmonies, rhythms and melodies, in new forms, taking the listener to an unknown combination of places. **NOSSO CARNAVAL** is the result of a particular way of expressing these genres - an intimate little carnival, like in the opening and closing pieces that give the name to the album. In this music, Gaia plays with odd meters, rich harmonies, strong melodies, dense textures and freewheeling counterpoint, while still maintaining the simplicity and playfulness of Brazil's traditional parties.

Originally a native of South of Brazil, Gaia Wilmer has been carving herself a niche both in the New York and Boston jazz communities and in Brazil. As a leader, active both in Brazil and the USA, Gaia's groups include the Gaia Wilmer Octet (performing her original music as well as some arrangements of Brazilian music), the Rama Trio (a saxophone, classical guitar, upright bass trio moving freely between the classical and the popular repertoire of Latin American music), the Gaia Wilmer Large Ensemble (performing originals as well as arrangements and re-compositions of standards and folk materials, with whom Gaia is releasing her first large ensemble album in January 2023 with Sunnyside), and the Gaia Wilmer Sextet.

Her own bands aside, Gaia has been involved in many crossover projects throughout the years. Some of her most notable collaborations have included performances and recordings with the likes of drummer and composer Ra-Kalam Bob Moses (with whom Gaia is releasing a record in late 2022) and Brazilian cellist Jaques Morelenbaum (with whom Gaia is recording a homage to Brazilian singer and songwriter Caetano Veloso in the fall of 2022 to be released in 2023). She has been commissioned to write music for big bands, small ensembles as well as for visual artists. In addition to her playing and composing activities Wilmer also serves as producer and music director for several musicians and music projects. Gaia Wilmer has a bachelor degree in International Relations and graduated in jazz composition at Berklee College of Music and with a Master degree from the New England Conservatory.

#### **PROMO VIDEO**

<https://youtu.be/-4nkht4VFdE>

Please visit: [gaiawilmer.com](http://gaiawilmer.com)  
Email: [gaiawilmer@gmail.com](mailto:gaiawilmer@gmail.com)

