

Debora Gurgel

www.deboragurgel.com.br

debora@deboragurgel.com.br

+55 11 99271-0048

fb.me/deboragurgelpiano

www.instagram.com/deboragurgelmusic



photo 2014 Murilo Alvesso | Da Pá Virada

Debora Gurgel is a pianist, flutist, arranger and composer from São Paulo, Brazil. She writes contemporary Brazilian music, with strong roots in Brazilian popular music and jazz improvisation.

Her discography includes mostly recordings of her own music with “Dani & Debora Gurgel Quarteto” (Rodopio/2018; The best of DDG4/2017; DDG4/2016; Neon/2015; Garra/2015; Luz/2014; Um/2013), with her trio and featuring Dani Gurgel and Septeto S.A. (Debora Gurgel/2012), with Triálogo (Triálogo/2001) and the group DICA (DICA/2000), her EP Piano Solo (2017) and many other works as a pianist and arranger such as with “Conrado Paulino Quarteto” and Adriana Godoy “Marco”.

On the last 8 years the release tours with the “Dani & Debora Gurgel Quartet” included Japan (Tokyo Jazz Festival, Blue Note Tokyo, Billboard Live Osaka, Kamakura, Hamamatsu, Nagoya and Fukuoka), and Jazz Festivals in Netherlands, USA, Spain, Italy, Paraguay, Argentina, Uruguay and several cities in Brazil.

Her compositions, arrangements and piano are in recordings by many artists from Brazil, the USA and Europe, such as Filó Machado, Adriana Godoy, Joana Duah, Vanessa Moreno, Conrado Paulino, Ari Erev, Sandy Cressman, Lilian Carmona, Tó Brandileone and Vinicius Calderoni, among others.

In April 2017 she was awarded “Best Arranger in Brazil” by “Prêmio Profissionais da Música” (Professionals of Music Award), and she was a semifinalist of the 7th Prêmio Visa Brazilian music award - Instrumentalists Edition in 2004, with the group Triálogo.

She is conductor and arranger of OBA - Orquestra Brasileira do Auditório (Brazilian Orchestra of Auditório Ibirapuera). At OBA, she takes part in educating students in Brazilian music along with Nailor “Proveta” Azevedo.

She is a member of the arrangers casting of Orquestra Jazz Sinfônica and Orquestra Jovem Tom Jobim, having written for Fabiana Cozza, Richard Bona, Chico Pinheiro, Maurício Einhorn, Claudete Soares, Joyce Moreno, Amilton Godoy, Lilian Carmona and Dona Inah, among others.

Her arrangements and compositions have been played and recorded in many formations, and in Brazil and abroad, in places such as Missouri University (USA), Berklee School of Music (Boston, USA), Codarts University of the Arts (Rotterdam, Netherlands), besides being utilized in group classes of Brazilian contemporary music around the world.

Debora studied piano and orchestration with Amilton Godoy, Roberto Sion and Fernando Mota. In 2012, she took part in a 5-day workshop with jazz pianist Chick Corea, having then played and recorded with Chick Corea, John Patitucci and Antonio Sánchez.

She taught at CLAM (school founded by Zimbo Trio) for 11 years, and authored many methods on the language of Brazilian music - for piano and woodwinds. She also taught essential jazz, arrangement and improvisation for all instruments at Escola Municipal de Música de São Paulo (São Paulo City School of Music).

Over the last years, Debora has offered workshops on Brazilian music and composition in renowned institutions such as The Jazz School (San Francisco, USA), Cornish University (Seattle, USA), Conservatório Dr. Carlos de Campos (Tatuí, Brazil) and many others.

She has worked beside many icons of the Brazilian scene, including Raul de Souza, Filó Machado, Zimbo Trio, Arismar do Espírito Santo, Nico Assumpção, Vinicius Dorin, Jane Duboc, Lelo Izar and Lilian Carmona.

As a pianist, besides her own work, she is a member of Zéli Silva’s group, Septeto S.A., Conrado Paulino Quarteto, Lelo Izar Quintet, and the singer Adriana Godoy’s band.

She has been featured in many editions of “Piano na Praça” (Piano in the square), part of São Paulo city’s Virada Cultural, besides Amilton Godoy, Nelson Ayres, Laércio de Freitas and other pianists, each playing a solo piano concert.