



Brazilian Contemporary Music

Louis Arques - clarinet, bass clarinet

Richard Boukas - guitar, composer

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www.boukas.com/dialogos-duo

Founded in 2016, *Diálogos Duo* is the preeminent U.S. clarinet-guitar duo specializing in contemporary Brazilian music. Their artistic and educational mission is to perform and teach from a panorama of contemporary Brazilian music- the largest body of original clarinet and guitar repertoire worldwide. “*Diálogos*” means “*Dialogues*” in Portuguese.

Louis Arques is a virtuoso who conquers Brazilian music’s complex melodies and syncopated rhythms. **Richard Boukas** provides rich guitar accompaniments that capture the authentic essence of each genre, including: *samba, choro, bossa nova, baião, frevo, marcha, maracatu* and *valsa*. Each movement is a compelling tribute to a legendary Brazilian composer/musician.

Boukas’s *Diálogos* works fuse traditional Brazilian genres with contemporary jazz and classical vocabularies- nine suites, 100 movements: *Sarau para o Pixinguinha- 125 Anos* (2022), *Sambistas Imortais* (2021), *Cantos do Nordeste* (2020), *A Dozen Choro Tributes* (2019), featured on their second CD, *Choro Tributes* (2020); *Three Choros for Bass Clarinet and Guitar* (2020), *Impressões de Minas* (2019), *Centenário* (2018); *Diálogos for Clarinet and Guitar*, *Diálogos for Bass Clarinet and Guitar* (2018), both featured on their debut CD, *Homages to Brazilian Masters*.

Diálogos repertoire is receiving ever greater visibility worldwide. *João Luiz (Brasil Guitar Duo)*: “Arques and Boukas possess a unique connection and complete command of their cutting-edge repertoire. Their present and future works and performances will be a perennial contribution to contemporary clarinet-guitar literature and pedagogy.” Italian clarinetist and Grammy winner *Alessandro Carbonare*: “Boukas’ extensive knowledge of Brazilian styles and great gift for composing offers us a broad repertoire of tremendous value.”

Keynote performances include *ClarinetFest* (International Clarinet Association, 2021, 2019), *Jazz Forum* (Tarrytown, NY), *NYC Classical Guitar Society*, *Sacred Heart Univ. “Art of the Duo”* (CT) and repeat broadcasts on *Performance Today* (American Public Media) and *WKCR-FM Jobim Marathon* (Columbia Univ.). The Duo presents *educational residencies* in Brazilian music performance practice, composition, and related musical disciplines.

About the artists

LOUIS ARQUES is a woodwind virtuoso from Grenoble, France. A *Vandoren* artist, he taught in French music schools for ten years including the *Paris Conservatoire* before moving to New York City in 2016. He is an itinerant chamber and orchestral soloist for New Music (*String Orchestra of Brooklyn, Mannes Orchestra, NewOrch*), jazz works (*Wynton Marsalis, Cornell University*) and Afro-Cuban music (*Grupo Irek, Sonido Costeño*). He is founder and artistic director of *Avalanche Orchestra* and the not-for-profit organization *Avalanche Arts*.

Earning his Master's degree and Artist Diploma from *Mannes/New School College of Performing Arts*, he is faculty at *Diller-Qaile School of Music* and was guest clarinet faculty at *Ithaca College School of Music*. Aside from his work in contemporary and Brazilian music, he performs early music repertoire on *Von Vittorelli's* replicas of eighteenth-century instruments.

RICHARD BOUKAS is an internationally recognized guitarist, vocalist, composer, educator and scholar of Brazilian music. In addition to *Diálogos Duo*, he is leader of Brazilian jazz groups *Quarteto Moderno, Trio Brasileiro, Duo Brasileiro* and performs frequently as a soloist. Apart from his prolific works for *Diálogos Duo*, he has composed commissions for *PUBLIQuartet, La Catrina String Quartet, Sopros de Pernambuco* clarinet quartet (Brazil), *Berklee World String Orchestra, Atlantic Brass Quintet* and *Cerddorion Vocal Ensemble*. Recordings as leader are *Quarteto Moderno Live! Ao Vivo!*, *Balaio* (with Brazilian pianist *Jovino Santos Neto*), *Live at St. Michaels* (with tamburist *Filip Novosel, Croatia*), *Amazôna, Embarcadero* and *Commitment*.

Faculty at *New School for Performing Arts/School of Jazz* since 1989, he founded the *Brazilian Choro* and *Brazilian Jazz* ensembles and is a recipient of the *Distinguished University Teaching Award*. He has been guest artist-educator at universities and festivals throughout the U.S.: *New York Guitar Seminar at Mannes, Harvard, Denver Univ., Cincinnati Conservatory, Hudson Jazz Workshop*; in Brazil: *Campos do Jordão, São Paulo, IFPE/Recife, UFMG/Belo Horizonte* and *UniRio/Savassi Creative Music Congress*; in Canada: *York College, Univ. Toronto*. He is a *La Bella Strings* artist endorsee since 1978.

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