

Richard Boukas

Composer Bio

New York City prolific composer, guitarist, vocalist and educator, he is internationally recognized as a creative exponent and ambassador of Brazilian music. His compositions for numerous ensembles and soloists synergize numerous authentic Brazilian genres with contemporary classical and jazz vocabularies.

Since 2016, his primary composing output is for *Diálogos Duo* featuring French-born clarinetist *Louis Arques* and himself on guitar. His nine suites and one hundred movements (each a dedication to an illustrious Brazilian composer/musician) is the largest repertoire of contemporary Brazilian music for clarinet (bass clarinet) and guitar worldwide. Their two acclaimed CDs are *Choro Tributes* and *Homages to Brazilian Masters*. Keynote performances include *ClarinetFest (ICA 2021, 2019)* and *Performance Today* (American Public Media).

Boukas' commissions include *Sopros de Pernambuco* (clarinet quartet, Recife, Brazil), *PUBLIQuartet String Quartet*, *La Catrina String Quartet*, *Berklee World String Ensemble*, *Atlantic Brass Quintet*, *Cerddorion* and *Queens College* vocal ensembles. He has also created adaptations for world-renowned artists including Italian clarinetist *Alessandro Carbonare*.

Richard leads, composes and performs with Brazilian Jazz ensembles *Quarteto Moderno*, *Trio Brasileiro* and *Duo Brasileiro*. Previous duo collaborations include Brazilian pianist *Jovino Santos Neto* and Croatian tambura virtuoso *Filip Novosel*. He has also composed an extensive body of solo guitar music and transformed Brazilian popular vocal repertoire and Beatles songs into extended polyphonic choral settings.

Richard holds an MA in Composition from *Queens College/Aaron Copland School of Music*. Recordings as leader and co-leader include *Diálogos Duo (Choro Tributes, Homages to Brazilian Masters)*, *Quarteto Moderno Live! Ao Vivo!*, *Novosel-Boukas Duo Live at St. Michaels*, *Balaio*, *Amazôna*, *Embarcadero* and *Commitment*.

An itinerant educator, Boukas is faculty at *New School University College of the Performing Arts* since 1989, where he received the *Distinguished Teaching Award*. His guest educator residencies and masterclasses in North America include *Harvard*, *Cornell*, *Cincinnati Conservatory*, *New York Guitar Seminar*, *Hudson Jazz Workshop*, *Univ. Toronto*; in Brazil: *Campos do Jordão Festival (SP)*, *UFMG (Univ. of Minas Gerais)*, *UnRio (RJ)* and *Federal Institute of Pernambuco (IFPE)*. He is a four-time recipient of the *NEA Grant in Jazz Performance* and *LaBella Strings* artist since 1978. Richard's publishing company is *Diatessaron Music/ASCAP*.

www.boukas.com/compositions

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