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artist: <b>katia b</b> album: <b>só deixo meu coração na mão de quem pode</b> label: <b>peacelounge recordings</b> distrib.: <b>ALIVE AG</b> release: <b>January 2005</b> <b>(Germany, Switzerland, Austria)</b>			
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## "The Russian Girl From Ipanema"

It took a while, but here it is; Katia B's second solo album, the much anticipated successor of Katia B. And it was worth the waiting. Katia surprises us with an impressive album, loaded with beautiful moments. Musically the cd continues on the road Katia took on her first album, now sounding even more convinced about that choice of direction. Bossa is a thankful source of inspiration in this case. A wonderful combination of Katia's soft sensual voice and the tasteful and modest use of electronics.

The melancholic sounding title song opens the album. Rodrigo Campello's 7-string guitar and cavaquinho form a lovely base for Katia's talking voice. The song -- in fact the whole album -- carries the late sound-master Suba's influence, which is no surprise with Katia's musical past in mind. Something that gets even more noticeable in the composition "Descontrole." BiD takes care of the samplers, Sacha Amback sounds perfect on the organ, while JR Tostoi (guitars), Kuki Stolarski (drums) and José Nigro (bass) complete the instrumentation. Suba would have loved this sound: soft and yet as contemporary as it can be! "Tanto Faz Para o Amor" is a song you can listen to again and again. Guest Lucas Santtana joins in the vocals, which has an air of bossa. The rap voice (René) seems like an odd addition, but it works remarkably! It gives the music a little abstract character, helped by the keyboards and synthesizers. Although this instrumentation could give the impression of sounding heavy, the contrary is true: never on this album the music sounds over-arranged; it's always a matter of good taste and balance. Very cleverly done. The arrangement of "Outra Estação" is made special by the cuíca of percussionist Marcos Suzano. The typical sound dominates in the background. "Are You Sleeping" is originally an unfinished composition by Suba. Katia finished it with the help of BiD. This rendition is given another direction by Egberto Gismonti, playing piano, forming a contrast with the relaxed easy going percussion beat of Marcos Suzano. The sound of a telephone-of-the-hook plays another game with the rhythm. It's an example of skilful arranging. Like "Segredo." What a masterful rendition that Suba/ Katia B composition gets. The emphasis is on various percussion instruments (Tom Rocha), while in the chorus a guitar (JR Tostoi) reproduces the sound of the early pop music/Beatles era (60's/70's). The surprises continue on "One More Shot." Who would expect punk star Supla to add (a little) voice on a friendly sounding straight ahead bossa? His voice pleasantly disturbs the masterful phrasing of Katia. On this composition Katia Bronstein confirms her perfect voicing, not distracted by the instrumentation. It is funny how recognizable Paralamas do Sucesso drummer (and Katia's husband) João Barone sounds on "Último a Saber," performed in an old fashioned trio setting (guitars, bass and drums). That leaves us with the only unmentioned song, "Parece Mentira," which contains all the elements we heard throughout this outstanding cd. It's Katia's own composition that would have been perfect as the album's closing song (but it's the cd's seventh track). As an extra, the track "Are You Sleeping" as heard on the Suba Tribute album has been added. A nice opportunity to compare the two versions. One little person was with Katia Bronstein during the whole process of the recording. While not even born, Vicente was a witness of his mother's musical adventure. Not a bad way to start life! Born on January 6th, I'm sure he somehow left his little mark on this recording too.

Katia B is my artistic name. My grandparents migrated to Brazil from Russia many years ago. I grew up in the Ipanema beach neighbourhood during the late 60's and early 70's. My mother used to take part in bossa nova "roundups" at bars and parties at the very birth of this music style. She later sung at the choirs of female voices on Egberto Gismonti's early recordings. Music was always an issue at home and I started to have classes at an early age, giving in my passion for singing.

I also gave way for performing arts, studying dance and theatre and taking part on a very famous "avant gard" young artist's group in Rio de Janeiro, in the beginning of the 80's. Amongst very famous local artists that rose from this group, there was my long term close friend: Bebel Gilberto (João Gilberto's daughter, she became very well known in the music scene recently).

After taking part in several films, plays, musicals and dancing projects, I concentrated my carrier on singing. In the mid 90's, I started to look for some new partners to give a deeper focus on my musical concepts, having the luck to find the former great producer Suba. Before his precocious lost, I had the privilege to have him mixing my first album, "Katia B". Suba then invited me to compose and sing on his album "São Paulo Confessions", on the track "Secret". Later on, I took part on his tribute album "Tributo", on "Are you Sleeping?". Both albums had great reviews (specially my tracks), were released and are still available by the Belgium record company Crammed ([www.crammed.be](http://www.crammed.be)).

My second album is called "I Only Put My Heart In The Hands Who Deserve It", has just been released by a Brazilian label, "MCD World Music". I worked with several producers. Some are new names in the music scene here in Brazil. Some are well known, like Bid (eletronic and lounge) and Marcos Suzano (great Brazilian percussionist that travels the world spreading some serious Samba beats!). Some other great local musicians took part on it, like my husband João Barone (drummer for famous pop band Paralamas) and the great worldwide renowned musical genius and close friend, Egberto Gismonti.

All the shear enthusiasm, good vibes and dedication while recording this album seem to be starting to pay back: it had a great receiving by local press and some excelent reviews by some Dutch (!) musical magazines. Some of the tracks are getting air play on radios in Rio. The last great news is that it will be released in Japan and Netherlands!

I have just started to perform my new show and, for the time being, there are several dates around Brazil - and some possible shows abroad - to be confirmed.

Katia  
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