



Paraíba meu Amor

A film about forró – the music of Northeast Brazil

Featuring the Brazilian musicians: Chico César, Dominginhos, Pinto do Acordeon, Aleijadinho de Pombal, Os 3 do Nordeste, Trio Tamanduá, and the French accordionist Richard Galliano

**A project by Bernard Robert-Charrue and Pierre Landolt
A dev.tv production**

A film by Bernard ROBERT-CHARRUE

Length: 74'

versions: *English, French, Portuguese*

Forró: a popular music and dance in Northeast Brazil. Principal instrument: the accordion.

Shot: May, June and December 2007

Location: Paraíba, Northeast Brazil

Film format: IMX video 50 megabits (Sony XDCAM)

Sound recording: Cantar Arri 8-track

Cinematographer: Henri GUARESCHI

Sound: Jacky SANDERS

Editor: Tim ROBERT-CHARRUE

Sound Mix: Dinemec Studios – Yvan BING-KOVACS

Sound Mastering: California Studio – Naïche BARBAGLIA

Details

The film shows how forró is an integral part of the life and culture of Northeast Brazil. Through forró, we discover the spirit of the Northeast and the Sertão - the region known as the 'drought polygon'. This dry and arid land has affected the people and their culture.

In a brief introduction, we discover the history of this music (with archive photographs and black and white film). The film is then narrated by the musicians themselves through a series of interviews.

Nature, drought and herds of cattle, the central themes of cultural life in the Northeast, are richly illustrated in the film.

The film switches between interviews and extracts of music. The main artists either play alone, with their groups or with each other. They pay homage to Luiz Gonzaga who died in 1989 and is considered to be the 'father of forró'.

The film takes us to many of the typical forró venues: village fetes, cabarets and also to the immense stage of Campina Grande in Parco do Povo for the Saint -John festivities (50,000 spectators).

There are also private concerts and enchanting encounters between musicians.

The originality of this film is the fact that it brings worldwide accordion star Richard Galliano to Brazil to play with forró musicians.

Presentation of the artists featured in the film:

- Richard Galliano is the world's best accordionist. A jazz musician, he has played and recorded with the all-time greats. An amateur of Latin-American music, he spent 9 years working with Astor Piazzolla. He is also known for creating the 'new musette' style.

- Dominginhos is the greatest living Brazilian accordionist. The encounter between Dominginhos and Richard Galliano is a high point of accordion playing and charged with emotion. The two musicians had spent 35 years listening to each others records and dreaming of the day when they would play together.

- Chico César – singer, guitarist – renowned worldwide, a major Brazilian artist. With his guitar he brings a different sound and

enriches the film. A great intellectual – his comments help to understand the reality of life in the Northeast and forró.

- Pinto do Acordeon – singer, accordionist – a great poet and renowned singer/songwriter. For many years he frequented the father of forró, Luis Gonzaga.

- Aleijadinho de Pombal – singer, accordionist – with an astonishing voice, a great 'bluesman' of forró who sings of love like no other in the Northeast.

- Os 3 do Nordeste – A classic forró trio: accordion, triangle and zabumba (drum). This is the traditional image of forró – one that would not have been out of place in the 1950s.

- Le Trio Tamanduá – a traditional trio travelling from marriages to christenings and village fetes in the Northeast. The singer/songwriter of the group is a cowboy by day and a musician by night. He represents the true roots of forró which can be found in the music of the 'vaqueiros' (cowboys).

This film was made with the help of:

- The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- Paraíba State Government
- Paraíba State Tourism Ministry
- Paraíba Tourist Office
- Campina Grande Prefecture
- Patos Prefecture
- Catherine and Pierre Landolt
- Rilavia Cardoso
- Ajalmar Maia
- Dinemec Studio