An evening with
Gilberto Gil:
Gilbertos Samba

Gilberto Gil
Bem Gil
Domenico Lancelotti
Mestrinho

Vocals and Guitar
Guitar
Drums/Percussion
Accordion

ABOUT GILBERTO GIL

Gilberto Gil carries out a fundamental role in the constant modernization process of Brazilian popular music. Partaking of this scene for 46 years, he has developed one of the most relevant and renowned careers as a singer, composer and guitar player in this field. Gil has had his albums released abroad since 1978, the year of his successful performance at the Montreux Jazz Festival, in Switzerland, recorded live. Every year he tours Europe, North America, Latin America and Japan with his contagious pop music spoken in portuguese-brazilian and international language. A music with a strong rhythmic appeal and melodic richness, as mixed as its people.

Rhythms from the northeast of Brazil like the baião, apart from samba and bossa-nova were fundamental in his formation. Using them as a starting point, Gil forged his own music to which he incorporated rock, reggae, funk and rhythms from Bahia such as afoxé. Gil has tackled a wide variety of issues in his lyrics, pertinent to modern reality: from social inequality to the racial question, from African to Oriental culture, from science to religion, among others. The mastership with which Gil explores these subjects makes him one of the greatest Brazilian composer-lyricists.

Gil's importance to the culture of his country goes back to the 60s, when he and Caetano Veloso created Tropicalism. Radically innovative in the music scene, the movement assimilated pop culture to national genres; deeply critical on political and moral levels, Tropicalism ended up being repressed by the authoritarian regime. Gil and Caetano were imprisoned and exiled.

In London, Gil recorded an album in English for the local label, Philips. When he returned to Brazil, he began a series of anthological records in the 70s: *Expresso 2222*, *Gil Jorge* (with Jorge Ben Jor), *Os Doces Bárbaros* (with the baianos Caetano, Gal Costa...
MESSAGE FROM THE CENTER:

Gilberto Gil is no stranger to Los Angeles. And with each illuminating visit to our city, he continues to update the playlists of our lives.

The last time Gilberto Gil performed on the Royce Hall stage, it was 2007, in a rare solo set. He had just released the intimate compilation disc Gil Luminoso, recorded only with voice and acoustic guitar.

Unsurprisingly, he charmed the audience. Gil is gracious, unaffected and eager to serve as a spokesperson for the greatness of Brazilian culture, and his fellow artists.

This time, he is back with a full band that includes another generation of Gil brilliance, with is son Bem on guitar.

From his earliest days performing in Brazil, to his high-profile collaborations with fellow luminaries such as Caetano Veloso, Gail Costa and Jimmy Cliff (just to name a few); Gil has been a prolific, consistent and generous example in the art of performance.

As Minister of Culture for Brazil, one of his accomplishments was implementing a program called Culture Points, which gives grants to provide music technology and education to people living in poor areas of the country's cities. He's inspired artists from diverse backgrounds and aesthetics worldwide.

Gil himself has never been bound by any one convention or defined by one particular sound. His personal musical interest and output is informed not only by the traditional sounds of Brazil like samba and bossa nova, but also rock and reggae. His own playlist is vast and varied and he joyously shares it with the world.

Tonight, he shares it with us.

Please help us give a very warm welcome to Gilberto Gil.

and Maria Bethânia) and a conceptual trilogy made up by Refazenda (of country extraction), Refavela (with rhythms from Jamaica, Nigeria, Rio and Bahia) and Realec. The latter, recorded in Los Angeles, fixed his option for pop music, which would direct the outcome of his work in the 80s. In the 90’s came Parabólicamorá, Tropicália 2, (a celebration, with Caetano, of the 25 years of the Tropiclist movement), and Unplugged, (a collection of successes, recorded live for MTV). In 1997, the double CD Quanta was released. In 1998, Quanta gente veio ver won the Grammy Award. In 2000 - “Eu Tu Eles” and São João Vivo. In 2002 - Kaya N’Gandaya, a CD and a DVD after a worldwide Tour became an alive CD. In 2004, Eletracustico (an alive CD and DVD) was the result of Gil’s concert at ONU in NY and as Gil was committed as Brazil’s Minister of Culture he decided to record in Rio.

In 2006, the Biscoito Fino label re-released the album with the title Gil Luminoso – voice and guitar, a CD that was recorded in 1999 to be packaged with the book Giluminoso – A Poética do Ser, by Bené Fonteles. The book was an homage to Gil with more than 50 lyrics by the songwriter, photographs and a long statement from Gilberto Gil. The Gil Luminoso tour, one of the most beautiful of his career, traveled to Europe and the United States.

In 2008, Gilberto Gil released Banda Larga Cordel, reaffirming his irreversible engagement with the new rules and compasses of the universe of bits and bytes – a theme that has fascinated him for more than 30 years – where Gil makes his work widely available for webcasts, podcasts, cellcasts, etc. The shows had warm invitation to photograph and film what one wants and however much one wants. Backstage scenes from the tour were posted on the internet in diverse platforms from a specially-created hot site.

In November 2009, Gil went on a European tour that lasted 32 days (15 shows in 9 countries) with the show The String Concert where he performed with his son Bem Gil, an impressive surprise in the new Brazilian music scene, and the outstanding musician and arranger Jaques Morelenbaum.
Still in the year 2009, in December, the new CD/DVD _Bandadois_ was released, recorded live in September, at Bradesco Theatre in Sao Paulo and directed by Andrucha Waddington. The show, vocals and guitars, had as special guests Maria Rita and his sons Bem, who has been touring with him for a while, on guitar and the youngest in the family José, who surprised the audience by joining in playing bass on a few songs.

With 52 albums released, Gilberto Gil has 12 gold records, 5 platinum albums, 7 grammys and more than 4 million records sold.

For his unflinching creative engagement in bringing to the world the heart and soul of Brazilian music, Gilberto Gil has been honored by several entities and personalities, and has also received many prizes in Brazil and abroad, such as The Polar Prize in 2005.

A unique composer powered by immense talent and curiosity.
A unique musical ambassador powered by firm cultural conviction.

**ARTIST ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Gilberto Gil and his team gratefully acknowledge tour sponsor American Airlines.

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Sat, May 2 at 10am
LACMA

**John Zorn: Royce Triple Threat**
(Abraxas, Secret Chiefs 3 & Bladerunner)
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Royce Hall

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