

Biography

BADI ASSAD

Singer-Songwriter, Guitar Player, Author

Based in São Paulo, Brazil, virtuoso guitar player, singer, vocal juggler and songwriter, Badi Assad has emerged as one of the most versatile artists of her generation. With more than 14 albums released worldwide, her 2006 CD *Wonderland* was selected among the 100 Best from the prestigious BBC London and was also included among the 30 Best on Amazon.com. The US magazine, *Guitar Player*, selected her from a pool of artists (that included the likes of Ben Harper and Ani DiFranco), as one of the guitar players that would revolutionize the world.

Embraced by record companies such as Verve (Universal) and eDGe Music (Deutsche Grammophon), she has played an array of international concerts over the past two decades, including innovative collaborations with Bobby McFerrin, Yo-Yo-Ma and David Broza, among others. She has performed in some of the most prestigious International Festivals, including North Sea Jazz (NE), Jarazum Jazz (KOR) and in theaters such as L'Opera de Paris (FR), Palais de Beaux-Arts (BE) and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York (US)...

Some of her songs have reached the Top 10 in Europe. Her hit song, *Waves* was featured in the soundtrack of *It Runs in the Family*, featuring Michael and Kirk Douglas. In 2004, with the release of *Three Guitars*, she toured the world with guitar legends, Larry Coryell and John Abercrombie. In 2006, she started a new project with her Brothers, the famous Duo Assad, masters of the classic guitar. In July of 2011 was created the Assad Festival to honor the work of the family as ambassadors of brazilian music worldwide. In the following year she went on to release *Between Love and Luck*, her first independent album on her own label, for which she was awarded Best Composer of The Year (APCA/BR). Her *Pega no Coco* won first prize for Best World Music Song at the USA International Songwriting Competition. Rolling

Stone Magazine selected her as among the 70 Best Brazilian Guitar Masters of History.

In January of 2014, Badi was commissioned by the Guitar Festival Marathon in New York to compose the soundtrack for the screening of the silent Chinese film, *The Goddess* (1934). Invited to also serve in the role of Festival Curator, she not only performed her composition live at New York's Merkin Hall, but also received a New York Times highlight as Best of the Festival. *Cantos de Casa*, her first CD dedicated to children garnered Trophy Cata-Vento for Best CD of the Year.

In 2015 she was invited to work with the Chicago-based global peace-building organization, Genesis at the Crossroads as the Guitarist/Vocalist in their *Saffron Caravan* multicultural ensemble alongside Moroccan Vocalist Aaron Besoussan, Arab Israeli Oud Virtuoso, Haytham Safia and Venezuelan Percussionist Javier Saume Mazzei, exemplifying their work of arts diplomacy. Additionally she serves as a panelist on Genesis' signature roundtables on the arts and conflict transformation and teaches the music and peacebuilding program for the Genesis Academy Summer Institute, a leadership training and peacebuilding educational program for international youth from areas of conflict.

In 2016 *Hatched* received acclaimed reviews for incubating a new Brazilophilic way to listen to global hits from modern icon labels including Lorde and Skrillex. In 2018 she released her first book, *Around the World in 80 Artists* (Pólen Livros). The film, *BADI* directed by Edu Felistoque was named Best Film by The FestCine Maracanaú in Fortaleza, Brazil and had its international debut at the 2018 Brasil Summerfest in New York.

Recently it was released *Stringshot*, recorded with the legendary blues slide guitar Roy Rogers and the virtuoso harpist and violinist Carlos Reyes.