

- Fact Sheet - TRE

TRE is the third album by guitarist Rodrigo Simões who had an insight during the pandemic to go deep into ternary numerology seeking inspiration for new innovative compositions. The band consists of a trio and its three guests musicians performing compositions with inspiring grooves and melodies in 3/4, 6/8 and 9/8. The album is composed of three suites divided into three pieces. The design also plunges into the mystical and mathematical universe of ternary logic. The number three is everywhere in this project, artistically and musically.

The band assembled by Simões for this recording features an All-Star cast of Canada's most prominent jazz artists. Rodrigo has made a multicultural mix between his musical roots (Latin guitar syncopations), the fusion bass of Carl Mayotte (Révélation Radio-Canada 2020), the jazzy drums of Mark Nelson, the African percussion of Elli Miller-Maboungou (Best music composition at FIJM 2017), the bossa singing of Bianca Rocha and the virtuoso saxophone by Jean-Pierre Zanella (Oscar Peterson Prize 2011).

TRE's music can be described as vibrant, joyful, diverse, dynamic, positive and energetic. The musical influences are clearly visible, ranging from Milton Nascimento, Mercedes Sosa, Charlie Parker, Airto Moreira and Hermeto Pascoal.

Songlist comments by Rodrigo Simões

- 1) "Add 1 teco" is a play on with the teleco-teco samba pattern. By adding a new element, a new groove in 9 was born;
- 2) "Bituca" is a tribute to Milton Nascimento. Three of his songs were used as inspiration. Do you recognize them?
- 3) "Baião de 3". Baião rhythm is traditionally in 2/4. There's also a traditional Brazilian dish called "Baião de 2". So, why not try an alternative on those themes?
- 4) "Yardbirb free" is a jazz waltz based on the chord changes of "Yardbird Suite" by Charlie Parker.
- 5) "Ibi". Igbim is an Afro-Brazilian conga pattern that inspired this song. This was the first piece composed and it inspired the whole project. I used to call it "All three", since it has 3 modal parts.
- 6) "Na categoria" is a 6/8 piece inspired by several African rhythms. "Na categoria" means "avec classe" in portuguese.
- 7) "Compo 9" is a piece based on a 9 clave. It also brings a feature that I rarely use, distorted guitars.
- 8) "Laranjeiras". After spending a full day at Laranjeiras beach (in Brazil) a new choro was born.
- 9) "Balderrama" is a well-known zamba interpreted by Argentinean singer Mercedes Sosa. Here it is an instrumental version.