



Welson Tremura (Guitarist and Singer) is a native of Brazil and a Ph.D. in musicology-ethnomusicology from Florida State University. Welson combines his classical guitar and his voice to interpret the most acclaimed Bossa-Nova songs, as well as, mixing his guitar compositions with a vocal touch of rhythm and innovative harmonies. He began singing and playing

guitar at the age of 11, and throughout the following years traveled throughout Brazil playing both solo concerts and with various professional ensembles performing at music festivals, including performances for two of Brazil's past presidents. An acclaimed singer-guitarist, Dr. Tremura maintains an active performance schedule and has been involved in concerts and interdisciplinary projects in Brazil, China, Mexico, Guatemala, United States, India, Spain, Italy, Germany, and New Zealand. As an Associate Professor in the School of Music and the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Florida, Dr. Tremura is an educator who is well-versed in Brazilian Jazz, classical, and vocal music as well as traditional European classical forms. He is also the director for the Brazilian Music Institute (BMI), co-director for Jacaré Brazil (Brazilian music ensemble), and the coordinator for the world music ensembles, in which he teaches guitar and vocal repertoires and organizes a variety

of concerts. He has also released two album recordings and participated in several recordings with renowned musical artists in Brazil as well as in the United States. Some of these include the International Double Reed Convention (Rotterdam, Holland), Festival de Inverno (Campos do Jordão, Brazil), Nashville Opry Theatre Christmas Concert with Barbara Mandrel, and a benefit Concert with Bernadette Peters (Tallahassee). Most recently he actively performs with the Alachua Guitar Quartet (AGQ), the renowned Ahn Trio, and the California Guitar Trio. His most recent academic publication: *Brazilian Folia de Reis: With An Open Heart: A Spiritual Journey Through Song* is available in paperback throughout several publishing sites.

“The songs that I sing and perform on the guitar represent the diversity of Brazilian music. A meeting of music and poetry brought together by the rich fusion of styles and rhythms of a country blessed with incredible regional and cultural diversity. To translate poetry is a work that involves not only knowledge of the language but also a deep understanding of the culture. I tried here to give my best impression of words and meanings through music. These lyrics bring together sound and image to make poetry. The English versions can only be compared with a declaration of love delivered by third parties. But as long as the words are shared, perhaps the music can evoke it's own emotion. And I perhaps, might feel the warmth of something, formed of melody and heart, flesh and percussion. And that something, may we sing to life. After all this is the Brazilian way!”