

Egberto Gismonti - Sol Do Meio Dia (with Jan Garbarek) [1978]

Written by bluesever

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1. *Palácio De Pinturas* 5:36 2. *Raga* 8:50 3. *Kalimba (Lua Cheia)* 5:18 4. *Coração* 6:03 5. *Café - Sapain - Dança Solitária No.2 - Baiao Malandro* 24:53 Musicians: Egberto Gismonti - guitars, piano, kalimba, percussion, flute, voice, bottle Nana Vasconcelos - berimbau, percussion, body percussion, voice, bottle Ralph Towner - guitar, bottle Collin Walcott - tabla, bottle Jan Garbarek - soprano saxophone

The Brazilian multi-instrumentalist Egberto Gismonti drew his inspiration for this music from time he spent with the Xingu Indians in the Amazon, and it's intended to invoke both their spirit and the experience of the jungle. Gismonti assembled some remarkable musicians for this 1977 recording--guitarist Ralph Towner, percussionists Nana Vasconcelos and Collin Walcott, and saxophonist Jan Garbarek--but he uses them sparingly. The opening "Palacio de Pinturas" is a gorgeous duet between Gismonti's 8-string and Towner's 12-string guitars, a music so tonally rich that it suggests multiple geographic sources. "Raga," with Walcott on tabla, is more specific, with Gismonti's rapid-fire runs suggesting a sitar, but his use of percussive harmonics is a new element. The long final track is a remarkably varied suite. It begins with a light trio that has Garbarek's only appearance--a keening, soprano-saxophone solo--and includes "Sapain" for an ensemble of blown bottles with voices and wooden flute. Gismonti's fascination with shifting instrumental colors creates consistently interesting music, combining traditions and sources into a novel musical space. ---Stuart Broomer, Editorials Review

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