

OqueStrada

Long Biog

OqueStrada was born on the periphery of Lisbon in the turn of the millennium, from the desire to create a portable group in the shape of a small neighbourhood orchestra that gave focus to the unique identity of each musician. This small rambling orchestra toured Portugal for years, building up a career on the stage, conquering audiences of every age. During these years, OqueStrada developed a Portuguese sound that creates it's own country, living the transition between the countryside and the city and between two centuries. In 2009, they released their debut album, "Tasca Beat-O Sonho Português" in Portugal and the secret of many was revealed to a greater audience. Received by the press as one of the best albums of the year and reaching gold status, one of its songs gets nominated for the Sociedade Portuguesa de Autores (the society of Portuguese authors) awards. In 2010, the Portuguese dream is released internationally on JARO Medien.

OqueStrada is born from the desire of Miranda and Pablo, both coming from the world of entertainment, she as a theatre actress with experience on the hidden fado houses and Cape Verdean taverns, where she began to sing, he coming from France with a suitcase full of experience in urban intervention and show design. They invited João Lima along with his Portuguese guitar to join the voice and the "contrabacia". As the orchestra always kept its doors open, musicians like Marina Henriques, Nelson Almeida, André Bahia and Moises Fernandez joined in later. OqueStrada set its base at an old cinema in the city of Almada, a lookout for Lisbon on the other side of river Tagus. In this suburban reality, they tackled their destiny and hit the road, building, year after year, their own touring circuit. They left in search of a country and went on building a cult. Their simple music grew on this adventure between small village fairs, "tascas", festivals and city venues. In OqueStrada an adventurous and independent song was created out of few resources, assuming the acoustic sampling, the DIY and a well orchestrated musical vagrancy. Some of the instruments, like the contrabacia, the percussion chair and the tiny Yamaha keyboards came in and were saved from a sad end in the junkyard. They are now key parts to the compositions. To do the world with what one finds on the way, is something the OqueStrada appreciates.

With "TascaBeat" (2010) OqueStrada concentrated on the relation between the countryside and the city, they created a sound that celebrates a vibrating Portugal, a country in transition. It is a sound that winks to the fado and listens to a forgotten country, that sings with proletarian glamour the streets of Lisbon and the suburban neighborhoods.

The new album "Atlantic Beat – Mad'in Portugal" released 2014 by Jaro is a fresh, spicy breeze from the Atlantic. The CD celebrates Europe because OqueStrada embraces the European idea, is convinced by an open minded Europe, a Europe of exchange. At the same time "AtlanticBeat" can be seen as a window, opened towards the Atlantic that lets fresh air in or as a balcony with a view of the world. OqueStrada's old motto "to leave to be able to come back" is profoundly current and their music is still the raw, popular and even danceable celebration of fado, of Africa's kuduro or funaná, of Brazil, of hip hop, or of every other culture.

Line- up:

Marta Miranda

Pablo

João Lima

André Bahia

Marina Henriques/Nelson Almeida

Moisés Fernandes

vocals

Waschwannen-bass (washtube- bass)

portuguese guitar

guitar

accordion

trumpet