**Eliane Elias**

***QUIETUDE***

**(Candid Records)**

At its sacred essence, music can transport us into another world. That’s especially relevant today, at a time when we are all surrounded by disruptions. Music is a healing force that can rescue us from what seem like uncertain times, offering a tranquil meditative tone. ***Quietude*,** the 31st album by renowned virtuoso pianist and alluring vocalist Eliane Elias, a luscious journey into the calmness of Brazilian bossa nova melodies, does just that.

A showcase of Elias’ sensuous Portuguese vocals, ***Quietude*** arrives after two brilliant recordings that reveal what an adventurous, multifaceted artist she is.  *Love Stories* from 2019, featured soft-focused classics and original compositions, mostly sung in English and arranged with full orchestration. In contrast, her 2022 GRAMMY® winning masterwork *Mirror Mirror*, was a dazzling wall-to-wall duo instrumental piano excursion with friends Chick Corea and Chucho Valdés - her first piano-only album since her superb *Solos and Duets* with Herbie Hancock in 1995.

On ***Quietude*,** the piano takes a lower profile with Eliane’s intoxicating and intimate singing taking center stage, often with acoustic guitar support in a swinging bossa nova sensibility. The vocalist-guitarist duo brings the authentic tradition but in a very personal and expressive way through Eliane’s harmonic approach as revealed in these gorgeous arrangements.

“I like to make music that I personally would like to hear. This album makes me feel good, at peace and relaxed and I hope that listeners feel the same”, states the multi- GRAMMY® Award winner. The music of ***Quietude*** takes one into a meditative state. It has a calming effect. Although the songs are sung in the romantic language of Brazilian Portuguese, the sound of Eliane’s voice together with the guitar is a universe unto itself. With the tonal quality of her sound, the expressive colors and dynamics, and the way she swings and phrases the melodies, understanding the Portuguese lyrics becomes unnecessary for one to be immersed in this recording.

Given that the piano on ***Quietude*** plays a secondary role, does Eliane worry about her fans wanting more? “Not at all,“ she says. “This is a vocal feature. The piano generally takes a secondary role by accompanying, interjecting melodic phrases and playing a few brief solos. On some songs, there is no piano. After all, traditionally, Brazilian bossa nova is sung with guitar accompaniment. It’s a sound.”

Eliane enlists three marvelous guitarists for ***Quietude*.** Marcus Teixeira who has been recording with her since her GRAMMY® winning 2015 album *Made in Brazil*, Lula Galvão, considered the current master of Brazilian acoustic guitar, and the great Oscar Castro-Neves, a longtime colleague who sadly had passed away in 2013. “He was one of a kind,” Eliane says. “I’m glad that I had saved this previously unreleased recording of ‘Tim-Tim Por Tim-Tim” and that Oscar’s beautiful playing could be included in this guitar-centric album.”

In many ways, Eliane’s embrace of these Brazilian compositions - ranging from legends Vinicius de Moraes and Antonio Carlos Jobim to Dorival Caymmi and Roberto Carlos - marks an expressive return home. As a child piano prodigy, she broke into the performing world touring with de Moraes and throughout her career, she maintained a special relationship with Jobim. In fact, two of her albums are dedicated to him and she received his blessing upon hearing her arrangements of his material. When jazz saxophone giant Joe Henderson was recording his own 1995 Jobim tribute, *Double Rainbow*, Eliane was called in by Jobim himself, who was ailing, to take his place on the recording session. “Jobim was not well,” says Eliane. “He asked me to be a part of the sessions and told me that he trusted me to play as he might, with his sensibilities which his music required. I was flattered.” That stands as a testament to a beautiful relationship based on mutual trust, admiration and respect.

Still, on ***Quietude***Eliane says that the material she chose to record owed less to her relationship to the composers and more to her relationship with the songs themselves. She opens the album romantically with a gently swinging take on the Carlos Lyra-Moraes song “Você e Eu” (“You and I”). She says, “I like the interactions of myself and Lula, the results of the modulations and colors that the arrangement brings to the tune. We are connected, there’s nothing harsh. And I like singing this song that says that no matter what happens, it will always be ‘You and I’.”

Another of Eliane’s favorites is the melody-rich “Marina,” composed by celebrated Brazilian musician Dorival Caymmi . This song is beautifully sung by Eliane accompanied by guitarist Teixeira, drummer Celso de Almeida and bassist/co-producer Marc Johnson. “I started studying harmony at age 10 when my mother found me a piano teacher who was a professional performer” she says. “Coincidentally, the song ‘Marina’ was the second Brazilian pop song that he had me learn. I still have the music notebook with the melody and chord changes notated by the teacher. Isn’t that sweet?”

Eliane delivers a duo setting of Dorival Caymmi’s tunes in the track titled “Bahia Medley.” Though born in São Paulo, she says she’s always had a love affair with Bahia where “some great songwriters came from and where the people generally are more calm, more laid back.” The album cover photo was taken in Bahia. Eliane also pays heartfelt homage to the state of northeast Brazil with the song “Bahia Com H,” played largely as a vocal-guitar duo with a slight piano embellishment.

Eliane dips into the Jobim songbook with a gorgeous take on his “Só Tinha Que Ser Com Você” (“This Love That I’ve Found”), a song she fell in love with in her teens. She closes her version with an authoritative, swinging and succinct piano solo. As a reminder of her technical prowess, she delivers another short but brilliant piano solo on the end of “Brigas, Nunca Mais” (”No More Fighting”).

Other highlights include the Eliane-Lula take on the beauty, “Olha” (”Look”); the full band upbeat rollick (complete with vocalese) through “Bolinha de Papel” (“Little Paper Ball”) which has cute lyrics about domestic issues; and the declarative love for the Samba “Eu Sambo Mesmo”(”I Really Like Samba”). ***Quietude*** ends perfectly with “Saveiros,“ a duo vocal affair with 79-year-old Brazilian luminary Dori Caymmi (the son of Dorival Caymmi) who co-composed the tune with Nelson Motta about men taking their sail boats out to sea. Eliane explains: “I can visualize this beautiful lyric about sailboats that set out to sea before sunrise, hoping that the winds will allow them to return home at sunset. With each boat that appears on the horizon there’s a song of joy for having once again conquered the sea.”

With her intoxicating vocals on this vibrant bossa nova journey, Eliane has masterfully told these calming musical stories to her listeners. Her artistry demonstrates that alongside her many accolades as a brilliant pianist, Eliane can wear the crown as the reigning queen of the bossa nova.

**More about Eliane Elias**

Hot off her 2022 GRAMMY and Latin GRAMMY wins for Best Latin Jazz Album with *Mirror Mirror,* internationally acclaimed recording artist, pianist/singer/composer/arranger Eliane Elias’ distinctive musical style and artistry is one of the most celebrated and recognizable sounds in jazz and Brazilian music.  She blends her Brazilian roots and alluring voice with her virtuosic instrumental jazz, her classical and compositional skills, while she consistently displays her pianistic mastery and ability to integrate the many artistic roles she takes on.

To date Eliane Elias has won two GRAMMY Awards, two Latin GRAMMY Awards and has been nominated 11 times in 5 different categories. She has toured 77 countries, is a four-time Gold Disc Award recipient, a three-time Best Vocal Album winner in Japan and winner of the 2018 Edison Lifetime Achievement Award in Holland, to name a few accolades.  Her 2019 and 2021 albums (*Love Stories*and *Mirror Mirror)*were both voted “Downbeat’s Best Album of the Year - Masterpiece” and as most of her previous releases, her recordings hit #1 on the jazz charts worldwide.

With 31 albums and over 2.5 million albums sold to date, Eliane has a strong presence on Spotify with almost half a billion streams and over 31 million Spotify listens of her song “Little Paradise”.

“The Brazilian pianist and singer Eliane Elias commands the keyboard with a forceful two-handed muscularity that belies her image as a blond older sister of the mythical Girl from Ipanema.” – *The New York Times*

“Her vibrancy is a force unto itself. With powerful artistry, her naturally prodigious talent is even stronger as the years pass—a feat capable only by the true elites of the musical world.” – *DownBeat*

# # #