

***With Australians turning their eyes to the Socceroos in Brazil for the World Cup, an Australian group is bringing Brazilian music to Tasmania this January.***

Along with world-class footballers and beautiful beaches, Brazil is recognised as fertile ground for music: Samba and bossa nova in particular have spread across the world. Melbourne is at the centre of Australia's burgeoning Brazilian-music scene, with talented Brazilian and Australian musicians working alongside each other in a range of traditional and modern ensembles.

**Panorama do Brasil** is one of Australia's leading Brazilian-music ensembles, and in late-January they will be touring Tasmania for the first time. The ensemble is lead by drummer/composer **Alastair Kerr**, a Tasmanian-born musician, now living in Melbourne. Kerr is recognised as a leading exponent of Brazilian percussion. He has studied and performed in Brazil with leading musicians, and following his 2012 trip to São Paulo, he formed Panorama do Brasil.

For their tour of Tasmania, Panorama do Brasil will be performing ***Stone Flower: A Jobim Tribute***. Antonio Carlos Jobim is one of Brazil's all-time great composers, and was at the forefront of bossa nova composition in the 1950s and 60s. Stone Flower is considered one of his greatest albums, and Panorama do Brasil will be performing it in full, alongside selections from their album, ***The Archer & the Dancer***. For this tour the group will be joined by guitarist **Doug de Vries**. De Vries is one of Australia's leading jazz guitarists, and internationally recognised as a master of Brazilian guitar styles.

Kerr was commissioned to compose a new suite, ***The Archer & the Dancer***, for the 2013 Melbourne International Jazz Festival. The suite was also recorded and released as the group's first album.

The group features flautist Asha Henfry (Melb), trombonist Hayden Dare (Hobart), pianist Matt Boden (Hobart), and bassist Jorge Albuquerque (Brazil/Melb).

**Panorama do Brasil, featuring Doug de Vries.**

Tuesday January 28, Launceston Jazz Club at the Royal Oak

Wednesday January 29, Jazz @ The Wharf, Gnomon Pavilion, Ulverstone

Saturday February 1, Rosny Barn, Rosny Park

Alastair Kerr is available for interview through the contacts below.

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Bio and photos follow:

## **Panorama do Brasil**

**Panorama do Brasil** draws on the diverse musical landscape of Brazil: music with influences from the arid interior, the Amazonian basin, and the streets of Rio and Salvador.

Panorama do Brasil is the latest project from drummer/composer **Alastair Kerr**, a long-time student of Brazilian music, recognised as one of Australia's best exponents of Brazilian percussion. Kerr is known for his work with groups such as *The Doug de Vries Trio*, *Sexteto Zona Sul*, and *Trio Agogo*, and is leading this new group focusing on Brazilian influenced jazz. With Asha Henfry (flute), Al Parsons (trombone), Matt Boden (piano/accordion), and Jorge Albuquerque (bass).

Panorama do Brasil released their debut album - *The Archer & the Dancer* - in 2013. This suite, composed by Kerr, received its premiere at the 2013 Melbourne International Jazz Festival. The group have also presented a tribute to Brazilian composer Antonio Carlos Jobim, performing the music from Jobim's masterpiece *Stone Flower*, with special guest Doug de Vries featured on guitar and vocals.

### **The Archer and the Dancer**

This suite composed by Alastair Kerr for Panorama do Brasil brings the aesthetic of Brazilian rhythms - exciting, multi-layered and diverse - to contemporary Australian jazz. The suite is both Brazilian and Australian, building on the countries' shared backdrop of transculturation, becoming something that is new art in itself - mischievous and improvised, rhythmic and beautiful.

The *Berimbau* (the Archer) is part of the traditional musical accompaniment in the Brazilian martial art, *capoeira* (the Dancer). The interplay between the two was central to the development of capoeira as art in itself. It is permeated by a sense of mischievousness and improvisation.

**Drummer/composer Alastair Kerr**



**Alastair Kerr recreates the cover photo of Jobim's masterpiece album, *Stone Flower*.**



**Panorama do Brasil at the 2013 Melbourne International Jazz Festival.  
L-R: Daniel Gassin, Alistair Parsons, Jorge Albuquerque, Asha Henfry and Alastair Kerr.**



**Alastair Kerr at the 2013 Melbourne International Jazz Festival, playing the quintessential Brazilian percussion instrument, the *pandeiro*.**



**Panorama do Brasil performing at Bennetts Lane Jazz Club in Melbourne. L-R: Daniel Gassin, Alistair Parsons, Asha Henfry, Jorge Albuquerque, Alastair Kerr.**

