

Alex Carvalho – Guitarist, Composer, Educator

Guitarist Alex Carvalho hails from Rio de Janeiro, and has been part of the town's music scene for a decade. He has been a professional musician since the age of 19, when he accompanied several Brazilian singers, including a tour promoted by Polygram Records.

A few years later, Carvalho moved to Boston where he developed his jazz language, performing with Claudio Roditi, Danilo Perez, Tiger Okoshi, among many others. *Boston Globe* referred to him as "...a vivid up tempo player whose improvisations remain delightfully melodic..."

Back to Rio de Janeiro, he recorded albums and joined bands of renowned artists such as Joao Bosco, Roberto Silva and Leo Gandelman, participating in several Brazilian and five world tours, reaching almost 100 concerts, including Montreaux and the North Sea jazz Festival.

Carvalho's first solo album *Central Park West* was considered by *O Globo* as one of the best hard bop records ever released in Brazil and features French saxophonist Idriss Boudrioua.

As an educator, Carvalho has been conducting seminars and guitar clinics in the US, Brazil, and abroad. He also writes articles for Brazilian editions of *The Guitar Player* and *Guitar Class* magazines. He holds a Master's degree in music composition from Rio de Janeiro's Federal University, where his thesis about musical texture in contemporary jazz has inspired academic articles and a PhD thesis in Brazil.

Carvalho joined the jazz faculty of Manhattan School of Music from 2007 to 2011 and is currently attending a Doctoral of Musical Arts program in the same institution.

In recent years, along with his several side man appearances, Carvalho has been developing compositions that blend jazz with concert music, which *O Globo* jazz critics refer to as "...*third stream* with Brazilian folk music elements..."