

7. Roberto Menescal: Balançamba

(R. Menescal / R. Boscoli) E.B.R.A.U. / Edition Nordton c/o Rolf Budde Musikverlag GmbH (Berlin)

From *A Bossa Nova de Menescal e Seu Conjunto*; orig. LP: Elenco ME-3

Rec. 1963; prod. by A. de Oliveira; © 1963 Elenco

Roberto Menescal, guitar; Eumir Deodato, piano; Sergio Barroso, bass; João Palma, drums; Ugo Marotta, vibes; Henri Ackselrud, flute; Aloysio de Oliveira, vocal; arr. by Eumir Deodato

A member of Bando da Lua, Carmen Miranda's backing group in Hollywood, Oliveira returned to Brazil in 1956 and soon became the A&R man at the Odeon (now EMI) label, where he would later record Gilberto's first three albums. In 1963 he founded Elenco, signing an impressive cast that included some great new bossa acts such as the Menescal group. Actually, it was Deodato's group, but Menescal took over the leadership when Oliveira offered him a recording deal. He needed a band, so he made the proposal to join them and appear as the leader.

This track features a very rare vocal performance by Oliveira, not credited on the original LP cover.

8. Lúcio Alves: Rio

(R. Menescal / R. Boscoli) Memory Lane Music Ltd. / Melodie der Welt J. Michel KG Musikverlag (Frankfurt)

From *Balançamba*; orig. LP: Elenco ME-2

Rec. 1963; prod. by A. de Oliveira; © 1963 Elenco

Lúcio Alves, vocal; Eumir Deodato, piano; Sergio Barroso, bass; Juquinha, drums; João Palma, percussion; Roberto Menescal, guitar; Ugo Marotta, vibes; Chiquinho do Acordeon, accordion; Aurino Ferreira, bass clarinet; arr. by Carlos Monteiro de Souza

A fabulous singer from the pre-bossa days (and nights), Alves soon joined "the new sound," feeling at home with the subtleties of the new musical aesthetic. On this album, he was joined by the Menescal group -- plus some guests -- for a Menescal and Boscoli songbook. This song is one of the most lovely they ever wrote, a tribute to the city where bossa nova flourished, changing forever the course of Brazilian music.