

Title: A new Edith Piaf is surging

Maria Dangell is the symbol of an age which was thought to be over, that of the greatest international music divas

Rodrigo Prado

It would be frivolous to say that the age we live in is quite banal, vulgar for excellence, at least with regard to music.

Although the real character of culture is being tarnished by the almost total lack of honesty, talents sprout.

They are not often to see, at the expense of a series of unhappy news offered in tiny doses, but still there, thrown in a haystack.

And while supposing that the era of the great divas has been exhausted, buried under the absurdity of the farce, Amedeo Minghi offers the extraordinary: Maria Dangell.

On his wonderful DVD to commemorate his 40-years career, "Amedeo Minghi - L'Ascolteranno Gli Americani," there's someone who can be considered one of the most fascinating pianists and singers of a long time the Italian singer introduced to Europe.

With her nasal tone and her breathtaking vocal power, Maria Dangell shines on stage, seated at the piano. She dominates the stage mesmerizing the audience, she makes it happen.

There's no mistake, Maria Dangell is a modern Edith Piaf, a prodigy of talent, the reason for even those most selective ones to reconsider their apathy in front of the sound reaching their ears.

Besides the vocal similarity, the perfect intonation filled with nuances, perhaps the passion, fire that burns in the soul of the true artist, and the attitude of the stage, simple but lofty and illuminated, make a picture of the majesty.

Although this singer born in Tallinn, the Estonian capital, is almost unknown to Brazilians, she appears next to famous names of European and American music, such as Francesco Baccini and Bobby Kimball.

Maria Dangell's CDs are hard to find in Brazil. She has only recorded two: "Just Stay With Me Tonight" and "The Heaven of Milano."

One tip: watch the track 17, "La Vita Mia," the DVD of Amedeo Minghi, in order to have an idea about who is Maria Dangell.

Excess? No. This article is a praise to an artist who began studying piano at the age of 7 (now 36) and sings fluently in eight languages.

The AT2 was able to talk with the singer who lives in Berlin, Germany.

Title of interview:

"I would be very happy to sing in Brazil"

Interview:

AT2:

You began studying piano at the age of 7. This relationship with the music happened by choice or by imposition of your parents?

Maria Dangell:

Music has been a part of me since I can remember myself. Still, I was lazy enough to exercise and certainly, it would be impossible to become good without technical abilities and dynamic. I definitely have to thank my parents for having imposed some very strict rules. Otherwise, my chances to express what I feel would be much more scarce today.

AT2:

There was a moment that you realized you were ready to go onstage?

Maria Dangell:

It happened naturally. Each stage of my life had its portion of experience to be shared with the audience. Some values changed over time, but the desire to learn has never left me.

AT2:

This desire is what guides you?

Maria Dangell:

Yes, and I hope I'll never get tired of it. I believe my inspiration to write, translate, arrange, perform songs and sometimes the dreams, is what makes me want to go on stage and record CDs, along with the desire to improve.

AT2:

Every musician, regardless of gender, should have a classical training?

Maria Dangell:

Not necessarily, but undoubtedly this type of training makes a musician more professional and helps to expand the opportunities to find the own way in the music and indulge in one's performance.

AT2:

You make a participation on the commemorative DVD of the 40-year career of Amedeo Minghi. How was it to make part of this important moment in the life of one of the most popular Italian singers?

Maria Dangell:

It was fantastic, because I believe our ways to feel music are pretty much in line. We are very much alike in the way of expressing emotions through music. I've been in love with Amedeo's music since I first heard it.

AT2:

You share the stage with Amedeo Minghi singing excerpts from "La Vita Mia" in three languages. Was the process of fitting these fragments difficult?

Maria Dangell:

Actually, I had translated "La Vita Mia" into English, German and French. Amedeo's suggestion was to perform a mixed version and I believe the result was a success.

AT2:

What precautions should be taken while translating a song?

Maria Dangell:

It is essential to stay in line with the sense, rhyme and phonetics, and it should reflect the sentiment of the song.

AT2:

Do you know Brazilian music?

Maria Dangell:

Bossa Nova, Tom Jobim is the first name that cross my mind. Sooner or later, every musician is faced with "Girl from Ipanema," which is amazing. Recently, I heard Nara Leão and enjoyed her performance.

AT2:

Is there a project to perform in Brazil?

Maria Dangell:

It would be wonderful!

AT2:

Do you think of investing in the Brazilian music market?

Maria Dangell:

This question would apply to the investors of music industry. As for me, the Brazilian market is always worth an investment. I would be very happy to sing there.

Phrase highlighted in the interview:

"Sooner or later, every musician is faced with 'Girl From Ipanema' which is an amazing composition, known in the world"