

**VANDER LEE**

One of the most inspiring songwriters of the current Brazilian music scene for his original approach, Vander transforms mundane themes such as love, football and urban stories em touchy ballads like "Esperando Aviões", "Onde Deus Possa Me Ouvir" among others, and light hearted sambas such as "Galo e Cruzeiro" and "Passional".

**BEGINNING** - Lee started playing in pubs in his native Belo Horizonte and little by little introduced his own songs on his performances in theatres and also in other towns, until in 1996 he was awarded second place in the festival "Canta Minas", produced by the broadcasting giant Globo TV, with the song "Gente Não É Cor". After this push, he was able to record his first CD independently, back when he was still known as Vanderly. He would only adopt the Vander Lee moniker on his second CD (the first one was only released in Minas and many of its songs were later re-recorded).

**ELZA SOARES** - In November 1998, Vander had one of his songs, "Subindo a Ladeira" (co-written with Rossana Decelso), recorded by the great Brazilian singer Elza Soares after she's got her hands on a demo tape sent by him. Following that, Vander was invited by Elza to join her in some of her live performances in São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Salvador.

**SECOND CD** - "No Balanço do Balaio" was released in 1999 by the Kuarup label and was Lee's first work to achieve commercial success and reveal the potential of his songs, his refined guitar technique and vocal singing. The CD was well reviewed by the media and caught the eyes of many singers such as Rita Ribeiro, who has recorded two of Lee's songs, "Contra o Tempo" and "Românticos" on her CD "Comigo" (2001).

**LIVE** - In 2003, Vander recorded a live performance at theatre Francisco Nunes in his native Belo Horizonte, which featured Elza Soares. Released by Indie Records label, the CD was a success and the songs "Onde Deus Possa me Ouvir" and "Esperando Aviões" were aired on the radio all over the country, which has contributed to spread the word about Vander Lee since then.

**COVERED** - Alcione, César Menotti & Fabiano, Daniela Mercury, Eliana Printes, Elba Ramalho, Elza Soares, Emilinha Borba, Fábio Jr, Gal Costa, Leila Pinheiro, Luiza Possi, Margareth Menezes, Maria Bethania, Mariene de Castro, Paula Santoro, Regina Souza, Rita Benneditto (or Ribeiro), Roberta Campos and Vanusa, all great and well known Brazilian singers, have released versions of Lee's songs up to this date.

**FOURTH CD** - "Naquele Verbo Agora" (2005, Deck records) leans a bit more towards ballads and a pop sound. It was nominated to the Tim Music Awards in Brazil as best album and best singer in the category Popular Songs.

**DVD** - In 2006, Vander Lee recorded the CD and DVD "Pensei Que Fosse o Céu" at Theatre Palácio das Artes in Belo Horizonte, on a sold out evening, and the performance had guests such as the well known singer/songwriter Zeca Baleiro. This CD has won the Tim Music Awards for best Popular Music Record.

**INTERNATIONAL** - In 2008, Vander played for the first time abroad after being selected by the Music Forum of Minas to perform in Turin, Italy. In 2009, he played in Austin, Texas at the SXSW Festival and also

on the Festival Romerías de Mayo in Cuba. In 2011 he would return to Austin where he played twice again at the SXSW Festival. One of these gigs was broadcasted in 3D. Vander would also play live at a Miami radio station called WDNA Radio. In 2013, Lee played in Lisbon, Portugal as part of the programme for the Brazilian Year in Portugal.

**FARO (CD)** - Produced by the Brazilian pop producer Marcelo Sussekind, Faro was released in 2009 and featured guest Lokua Kanza, which was a fresh act from Africa.

**SOAP OPERA** - In 2010, three of Lee's songs were selected to feature in the soundtrack of the Brazilian soap opera "Uma Rosa Com Amor", aired by SBT TV. "Românticos" was recorded by the local hero Fábio Jr.; both "Chazinho com Biscoito" and "O Dedo do Tempo no Barro da Vida" were Lee's original recordings.

**SEVENTH CD** - In 2012, Vander released "Sambarroco", which set the turning point in his career towards the samba, but without losing his romantic appeal. Produced by Thiago Delegado, the album features songs that relate to Brazilian local genres such as choro, xote, baião and bolero.

**2014** - After 16 years on the road, Vander Lee performed for the second time at Salvador's Summer Festival, inviting singer Marienne the Castro to sing alongside him. Vander has also just released the CD "LOA" with his own label BALAIO. The new tour, which kicks off in August, will feature a blend of his new songs and many of his past hits, always ready to melt down the hearts of unaware new listeners.