

# Tania Maria meets hr-Bigband

The unique style and brilliant piano work of the Brazilian artist, singer and composer plus one of the most innovative German jazz ensembles of our times. Tania Maria meets the hr-Bigband - a genuine highlight in 2010!



## Line-up

Tania Maria - piano, vocals

Örjan Fahlström - musical director

On Stage: 21

Travel Party: 28

## Website

[www.taniamaria.net](http://www.taniamaria.net)

## Biography

One meeting is not enough! The first collaboration of Tania Maria and the hr-Bigband in 2007 was a pyrotechnic display of musical excellence, passion and innovation and it was still throwing out sparks long after the end of the tour. Totally enthralled by the meaty sound of the bigband's brass section the vivacious artist and grande dame of Brazilian music repeatedly indulged in sponaneous applause on stage. The live recording of the concert in Darmstadt in February 2007 featuring the hr-Bigband will be Tania Maria's next CD release. The CD release will be celebrated with a new set of concerts: Tania Maria meets hr-Bigband - part 2! The hr-Bigband (The Frankfurt Radio Bigband) stands for innovation and variety. It unfolds its activities in a broad range of styles from classical big band jazz to avant-garde jazz and from popular to classical music. Its imaginative programmes, quality musicians and high-profile projects have raised it to the Champions League of large ensemble jazz music and have set new musical standards. From swing to the avant-garde, it covers the entire spectrum of jazz, as well as crossing over into classical, pop and world music. Together, projects with talented young musicians and international stars, concerts performances, radio broadcasts and CD recordings make up what the hr-Bigband is today. Week after week the Frankfurt Radio Bigband covers new musical worlds. In every concert season about 25 new projects take shape, which are performed live in about 50 concerts. Almost no project is too big for the Frankfurt Radio Bigband. World innovations such as the surprising meeting with Gamelan music from Bali or with DJ and electronics are merely attractive challenges for the musicians. All concert projects are recorded live and broadcast on hr2 (the radio program of Radio Frankfurt). Thanks to the wide range of its musical work, the Frankfurt Radio Bigband has become an irreplaceable part of cultural

life in Germany. Tania Maria came to prominence in the early 80s with a unique set of sultry, rhythmic and melodic songs. Her music is mostly vocal, sometimes pop, often jazzy, and unmistakably Brazilian. Whether playing fiery samba, tranquil bossa, Afro-Latin, Pop and Jazz fusion, or any other style, she maintains a style that is uniquely her own. Born into a family of amateur musicians in Sao Luis, northwestern Brazil, she began studying the piano at the age of seven and was just 13 when she was the hands-down first-prize winner in a regional competition as the leader of a group started by her father. At the time, bossa nova was all the rage from Rio to New York, adding a peppery touch to jazz like an exotic local spice. Just three years later, however, this talented young woman with a bright future tried to distance herself from music by studying law. Her fingers continued to yearn for the piano, however, and she finally gave in to its insistent call, committing herself to music with more fervour than ever. After shuttling between gigs in Rio and Sao Paulo, she recorded her first album at the age of 20, for Warner. As early as 1969, her first musical performances clearly showed her potential and her predilections: an astounding mix of Brazilian rhythms and jazz harmonies, underpinning a remarkable natural gift for spinning sophisticated melodies. After 36 years and 25 albums, and by way of such runaway hits as 'Piquant', 'Come With Me' and 'Made In New York', Tania Maria stands out as one of the truly great talents on the Brazilian music scene, where she is known for her unmistakable voice, whose sultry low tones can lay down a serious groove, and for her percussive touch at the piano, where things can suddenly take a more classical turn. She has also done a lot of traveling in her time, from the Paris nightlife of the 1970s, where she met Claude Nougaro, to the New York fusion years in the 1980s; she has lived in both cities, and both continue to live in her. She's also taken part in virtually every major jazz festival in the world, from Montreux to New Orleans, Tokyo and Nice. Tania Maria is an accomplished musician who, though always attracted to swing and jazz, has never forgotten the fundamental beats of her native choro and samba.

### Discography

2010 - Tania Maria meets hr-Bigband (live)

The tour will celebrate the CD release. The CD was recorded during a concert in Darmstadt in 2007.

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