



Sergio Pamies "What Brought You Here?"

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Official trailer: <https://youtu.be/LA6uq1XT-28>

What Brought You Here?

What Brought You Here? is the new album of Spanish pianist, Sergio Pamies. His previous album, *Borrachito*, was a robust defense of the artistic possibilities of Flamenco Jazz (special mention to “Fandango in Boskovice,” with Christian Scott). Not only does *What Brought You Here?* convey Pamies’ musical evolution and growth, but it reveals the most intimate side of the artist; Pamies showcases his composition, arranging, and producing abilities. This album is the work of a seasoned jazz pianist, and it demonstrates his commitment and dedication to his art. Pamies has reached a new level of maturity in this playing, paying tribute to the jazz piano masters in each improvised line.

What Brought You Here? begins with a solo piano rendition of the album’s title track that fades into the lively, “Our Man Andrew,” a title that references Lee Morgan’s “Our Man Higgins,” where Quamon Fowler, Andrew Griffith, Young Heo, and Pamies himself demonstrate the vibrant Dallas – Fort Worth jazz scene. Ashleigh Smith and Samuel Torres contribute to this refreshing version of Cole Porter’s “I Get a Kick Out of You,” where the orchestration features horns, electric pianos, and percussion, displaying Pamies’ creativity and thoughtful musicality.

“Bem-Aventurado” alludes to Jobim, João Donato, Ivan Lins, Eliane Elias, and all the Brazilian artists who helped jazz and Música Popular Brasileira come together. Sergio Pamies’ solo on this track shows his strength as an artist as he artfully stretches and crafts rhythmic and melodic ideas to their maximum capacity. His melodic and lyrical writing is noteworthy in “Aún No Te Conozco,” where Pete Clagett’s beautiful sound on the flugelhorn floats above a sophisticated contrapuntal arrangement accompanied by a string quartet. Clay Pritchard’s robust sound in “All of You,” is a welcomed addition to this Cole Porter classic.

The elegant and unpretentious version of “What Brought You Here?” is one of the outstanding moments of this album, and features Lupe Barrera, Young Heo, and Pamies’ chemistry as a trio. “El Hijo de la Portuguesa” is Pamies’ tribute to the collaboration between Paco de Lucía and Chick Corea, featuring a brilliant Brad Kang along with Pamies’ childhood friends from *Borrachito*. “This is for (Joan) Albert” is an *Evanesque* piano trio piece dedicated to the great Spanish composer Joan Albert Amargós. In “Faltando Um Pedaco,” Granada vocalist Lara Bello enhances the beauty of this Djavan tune with her delicate and passionate unmistakable style.

What Brought You Here? opens and closes with the title track, the *leitmotif* that will accompany Pamies in his future endeavors in the USA.

Sergio Pamies

Born in Granada, Spain in 1983, Pamies has published three albums under his name; *Entre Amigos* (PSM, 2008), *Borrachito* (Bebyne Records, 2011), and *What Brought You Here?* (Bebyne Records, 2017). Critics have acknowledged his talent for composition, the lyrical qualities of his playing, and his natural and spontaneous ability to fuse the traditional jazz language and flamenco music of his childhood.

Pamies has performed at festivals in Austria, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Colombia, Perú, China, Spain, and the United States. He has collaborated with outstanding artists, such as Christian Scott, Rubem Dantas, Antonio Serrano, Diego Amador, Pepe Luis Carmona “Habichuela” (all of whom collaborated in the making of *Borrachito*), Quamon Fowler, Horacio Fumero, Matthew Simon, Michael Miskiewicz, and Joan Albert Amargós. Besides leading his own projects, he has produced other artists such as Verso Suelto (*Verso Suelto*, Youkali Music 2016), Korean singer Roja (*My Shining Hour*, Mirrorball Music, 2013), and The Zebras (*Flamenco Jazz Project*, North Texas Jazz, 2011).

Pamies received his bachelor’s degree in Jazz Piano (Liceo Conservatory in Barcelona, 2007), and then moved to the United States to study with Stefan Karlsson and complete a master’s degree in Jazz Piano at the University of North Texas (UNT), where he was awarded “Outstanding Student” in 2011. Pamies finished his doctoral studies (DMA in Jazz Piano) in 2016. He was the pianist of the 7-time Grammy nominated One O’Clock Lab Band at UNT, having the opportunity to perform with guest artists such as Bobby McFerrin, Arturo Sandoval, Marvin Stamm, Wycliffe Gordon, Doc Severinsen, and Chuck Findley. As a member of the One O’Clock rhythm section, he has accompanied artists such as Christian McBride, Peter Bernstein, Lewis Nash, Tim Hagans, and Greg Osby, among others. Pamies is the featured soloist on Rich DeRosa’s composition “Neil,” which received a Grammy nomination in 2016 for “Best Instrumental Composition.”

In 2015, Pamies was selected for the “Latin Jazz Traditions” concert organized by Carnegie Hall, performing there with Paquito D’Rivera, having his composition “Dudú” selected for the program. In 2014, Pamies was awarded with the “Best Representation of Granada in a Foreign Country” youth cultural award by the Youth Institute of Andalucía, Spain. He has received 7 DownBeat student awards; Best Instrumental Soloist (2013), Best Large Ensemble (2014), and Best Latin Group (2012) among them.

More information:

<http://www.bebyne.com/artists/sergiopamies>

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