

AIRTO MOREIRA – “Celebration Suite”



Airtó Moreira has been playing music from a very young age. Born in 1941 in the small village of Itaiópolis, south Brazil, Moreira moved to Sao Paulo at the age of sixteen and performed regularly as a percussionist, drummer and singer.

In 1965 he met the singer **Flora Purim** in Rio de Janeiro. Flora moved to the USA in 1967 and Airtó followed her shortly after, where he began playing with the greats - Cannonball Adderley, Lee Morgan, Paul Desmond and Joe Zawinul, and most notably, **Miles Davis**, performing on “Live/Evil”, “Live at the Fillmore”, “On the Corner”, “The Isle of Wight”, “Bitches Brew” and later releases including the “Fillmore Sessions”.

Following his period with Miles Davis, Moreira continued as a founding member of **Weather Report** and later joined Chick Corea’s **Return to Forever**, appearing on the albums “Return to Forever” and “Light as a Feather.” By the mid-1970’s, Moreira was an established player in the jazz circuit, and while he continued to be highly sought after as an ensemble percussionist, he also began recording and performing as a bandleader and with his wife, Flora Purim.

SAMBA SAMBA SAMBA

In 1997, a new audience discovered Airtó Moreira when the Bellini Brothers sampled his song, “*Celebration Suite*,” for their breakout dance hit, “*Samba De Janeiro*.” The track went on to hit #1 in the dance music charts in over 26 countries around Europe, Asia and Latin America, later garnering numerous placements in television commercials and video game soundtracks.

In 1998, a reworked version of the song, “*Samba e Gol*”, was selected as one of the official songs of the World Cup Soccer Championship and was used in commercials that appeared in Israel, Greece and France. The song reappeared at Euro 2008, played every time a goal was scored.

Notable Usage of “Samba De Janeiro”

Konami	Dance Dance Revolution Max 2 game
SEGA Japan/ SEGA USA	Samba De Amigo game
Suntory	television, radio, and theatre advertisement for Bingobongo soft drink
Naj Magazine	television commercial
SEGA Europe	SEGA Superstars Tennis game
Takarazuka Creative Arts	DVD of the Takarazuka Snow troupe's revue show "Rio de Bravo!!".
Gameloft	DJ Mixtour mobile game

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