HIGH FIDELITY

ESL 2201

saudade

The quiet sound of Thievery Corporation

VOCALS *Loa Lua Ghebrkiflian, Karina Bernini, Natalia Clavier, Shane Mulligan, Elio Melgarejo* GUITARS *Rob Garza, Federico Aubele, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Mario Mirel,*
DRUMS *Jeff Franco, Eric Lenardo* BASS *Eric Wilson, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Federico Aubele, Justin Parrish* PERCUSSION *Jeff Franco, Roberto Sanchez*
STRINGS *Columbia Ensemble* HORNS *Frank Mitchell, Jr.* KEYS *Eron Dunkerly, Rob Garza*

SIDE A

1. DECOLLAGE *Featuring Loa Lua Ghebrkiflian*
2. MEU NÊGO *Featuring Karina Bernini*
3. QUEM ME LEVA *Featuring Elio Melgarejo*
4. FIREFLIGHT *Featuring Loa Lua Ghebrkiflian*
5. SOLA IN CITTÀ *Featuring Elio Melgarejo*
6. NO MORE DISGUISE *Featuring Loa Lua Ghebrkiflian*

SIDE B

7. SAUDADE
8. CLARIDAD *Featuring Natalia Clavier*
9. SÓN DOIS *Featuring Karina Bernini*
10. LE COEUR *Featuring Loa Lua Ghebrkiflian*
11. PARA SEMPRE *Featuring Elio Melgarejo*
12. BATEAU ROUGE *Featuring Loa Lua Ghebrkiflian*
13. DEPTH OF MY SOUL *Featuring Shane Mulligan*

Thievery Corporation has always been an intriguing musical entity. At one moment, their music burns with revolutionary spirit, accompanied by raging horns, thumbusting strumpets, and bass lines of pure fire. In another moment, they craft lilting, languid compositions, that speak of love, loss and beauty. Throughout their career, the duo comprised of Rob Garza and Eric Wilson have consistently stretched the limits of sound and genre, as they have deftly managed to escape the confines of category, and transport their audience to far flung places.

What many do not know, is that the duo first decided through a shared love of bossa nova and Brazilian sounds. In fact, their first album, Sounds from the Thievery, Vol. 1, was dedicated to Antonio Carlos Jobim. It should come as no surprise to long time fans that the duo would create this LP, filled with the signature warmth and subtlety, that has garnered them such universal cross from contemporary musicians and production.

Saudade, their seventh full length LP, finds Indie Thievery Corporation in a unique musical space. Inspired by their deep affection for vintage movie soundtracks, bossa nova and dub-reggae sounds, Garza and Wilson have created an effort that is both nuanced and refreshing. Once again, they have constructed a revolutionary set by radically changing course and exploring musical forms that are tender, melancholic, and timeless.

Saudade is a Portuguese word which is used to the the essence of bossa nova. Essentially, Saudade has several meanings: a longing for something or someone that is lost, a concealed melancholy, or simply, the presence of absence. It is a concept that lives in the heart of all Brazilians. It can also be applied to music. Thievery Corporation compositions from their past works. But here, Wilson and Garza have fully embraced the feeling of Saudade in one single album.

Recordings, co-produced by Loa Lua Ghebrkiflian, the vocalist extraordinaire, complement Garza and Wilson's delicate music and rhythms. Loa Lua, is of course, well known for numerous songs on previous Thievery Corporation albums. From Shakatai's gypsy work, seductively sung phrases, lost whole, smooth delivery, as the song reminds the listener of some of the best French bossa albums from the 1960's.

Meu Nêgo, sung in Brazilian Portuguese Karina Bernini, has a driving samba anthemic that creates a perfect musical and cultural vantage simultaneously. Ms. Bernini is best known for her dynamic stage performances with Thievery Corporation, and Nouvelle Vague. Ms. B's unusually lyric voice from her to the core Senate.

Quem Me Leva, is an evocatively subtle samba, that combines creative chords, strings and vintage horn supporting the lovely vocals of Thievery newcomer Elio Melgarejo. The percussion is performed by master Brazilian percussionist Roberto Sanchez. The free guitar work is played by Rob Garza for Federico Aubele.

Firelight, Loa Lua sings about late nights and late mornings on tour with Thievery Corporation. The song is a perfect blend of bossa nova and the signature groove that contains Thievery Corporation. The guitar is deftly performed by Federico Aubele.

Sola In Città, performed in Italian by Elio Melgarejo, could easily have come from an Ennio Morricone soundtrack. Her gorgeous, haunting delivery complements the unique chord structure created by Wilson and Garza. The electric Wurlitzer played by Eron Dunkerly adds greatly to the allure and mood of this composition.

No More Disguise is a quietly powerful song, anchored by stirring orchestral strings and tribal rhythms. The vocalist is driven by Loa Lua exemplifies her classic style.

Saudade is a captivating instrumental that apply infuses that Intense feeling. The guitars played by Mario Mirel and Federico Aubele have a classic Portuguese sweet – a close kinsmaster of the European influence in Brazilian music.

Claridad, performed by Argentina's Natalia Clavier, is a mesmerizing latin number. The antique analog organ tones and light production touch, have simple roots for Ms. Clavier's enchanting vocal.

Son Dois, the first song recorded for this album, is a classically mellow bossa that defines a fine balance between acoustic and electric instrumentation. Karina Bernini's vocals evoke some of the earliest compositions that were placed in the Bossa Nova of 1960's Spanishes.

Le Coeur is a cover based French lullaby with a decidedly cool Latin feel. The guitar work by Federico Aubele, saxophone by Frank Mitchell, Jr. and the drums by Jeff Franco quietly underpins Loa Lua's soothing vocals.

Para Sempre is a bossa bossa song impressively performed by Elio Melgarejo. The spirited performance, by Jeff Franco, and guitar, by Federico Aubele, are a strong force behind this composition.

Bateau Rouge has a lovely French bossa feel, built on bossa (Ala) chords and a moist song change along the bass. This vocals by Loa Lua will a tale of young love and the optimism of the early days of romance.

Depth of My Soul features the talented drummer Shane Mulligan, formerly of Blue Cascade. His mesmerizing performance, along with the guest's excellent textures, create a haunting and enchanting finale.

Throughout Saudade, Wilson and Garza, along with all the performers, have certainly created a classic long player that is intended to be experienced in total. So sit back, turn on your low fi system and enjoy the sound of Saudade.

Giovanni Cardoso
Photographer and GM, Intern

Produced by Thievery Corporation Rob Garza and Eric Wilson
Engineered and co-produced by Chris "Brain" Garcia
Mixed at Mr. Mark mixed by Gonzo. Was recorded at Personal NY by Greg Gordon
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Mastered by Joe Lambert
Art Direction and Design by Ivan Aubele

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