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The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center presents a  
**Tribute to Bossa Nova**

*The Felipe Salles Quintet will Headline with  
Special Guest Vocalist Elonora Bianchini  
March 19 at 7:30 pm*

**March 4, 2010, Dix Hills, New York,**— The Dix Hills Center for the Performing Arts will present a rousing tribute to Brazil's Bossa Nova jazz style March 19 at 7:30 p.m. The show will feature the Felipe Salles Quintet lead by Felipe Salles, director of the Five Towns College Jazz Orchestra and a noted Brazilian-American recording artist. The Quintet will be joined by special guest singer Eleonora Bianchini, originally from Perugia, Italy, currently lead vocalist of the "Peru Mestizo Project" with band leader Oscar Stagnaro.

Felipe Salles, a native of Sao Paulo, Brazil, currently lives and performs in New York City with the Quintet, the result of this cultural fusion, a blend of elements from two of the richest musical traditions in the world: Brazilian/Latin music and Jazz. Before coming to the United States, Felipe was active in numerous combos and bands as a saxophonist, composer and arranger. He played with such bands as Octeto de Musica Brasileira, Zerro Santos Big Band, Banda Farinha Seca, Zydeco Band, Santa Gafieira, Sampa Crew, Savoy Quartet, and the Axel Fisch Group, and has performed with Brazilian artists such as Daniela Mercury, Paulo Moura and Wagner Tiso.

"It's always refreshing to witness the emergence of new and vibrant talent -- such is the case with saxophonist Felipe Salles," wrote Mark F. Turner in *All About Jazz* magazine.

Salles has been an active musician in the US since 1995, leading his own group. He has had the opportunity to work and record with prominent jazz artists like George Russell, Gunther Schuller, Sam Rivers, Herb Pomeroy, Jerry Bergonzi, Jovino Santos Neto, David Liebman, Oscar Stagnaro, Duduka Da Fonseca, Maucha Adnet, Tony Lujan, Luciana Souza, Bob Moses and Fernando Brandão. In addition, Felipe Salles has studied with such world-renowned musicians as David Liebman, Jerry Bergonzi, Bob Mintzer, George Garzone, Charlie Banacos, Michael Abene, Ludmila Uhlela and Kenny Werner.

Felipe is a 2009-2010 winner of the French American Jazz Exchange Grant from FACE, Doris Duke Foundation and Chamber Music America, and a 2005-2006 winner of the Chamber Music America New Works: Creation and Presentation Grant Program, a component of the Doris Duke Jazz Ensembles Project, sponsored by The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

He has also been awarded First Place in the Concurso SGAE de Jazz "TETE MONTOLIU", 2001, with the composition "The Return of The Chromo Sapiens", and Fifth Place at the III Premio SGAE Iberoamericano de Jazz Latino, with the composition "Freudian Slip", 2002. He has also been awarded the Boston Jazz Society Scholarship Award for 1997, and was a featured performer at the Boston Jazz Society 22nd annual Jazz Festival in 1998, where he opened for and performed with Stanley Turrentine, as well as an act at the BJS 23rd annual Jazz Festival for the year of 1999, leading his group featuring Bob Moses, John Lockwood, Alain Mallet and Tony D'Aveni.

Eleonora Bianchini is a young Italian singer who creates a warm and charming atmosphere through the sound of her voice. She is inspired by many Brazilian and Latin American artists such as Rosa Passos, Djavan, Caetano Veloso, Mayte Martin, Eva Ayllon. They have all greatly influenced her music, and it is thanks to their art, that she has discovered a secret place inside herself where a passion for Latin music has always existed.

At the age of nine, Eleonora began studying piano. Shortly thereafter, she began to incorporate singing into her unique form of musical expression. She attended the Music Conservatory in Perugia, Italy studying opera from 1999 to 2003. During the same period, she was enrolled in the jazz studies department at the "Music University" in Rome where she studied jazz harmony, jazz repertoire and improvisation.

After that Miss Bianchini attended the Berklee Clinics at the Umbria Jazz Festival in summer of 2002 and she was awarded a scholarship to the prestigious Berklee College of Music. On the same occasion, she was hand picked by Italian musician Giovanni Tommaso as the singer for the Berklee student quintet who performed for the Orvieto Jazz Festival.

Since then, Eleonora has been studying in Boston, where she has performed in many of the events and concerts there. In November 2007, she also collaborated as guest vocalist with the legendary Brazilian singer Rosa Passos for her Boston performance. She is currently lead vocalist of "Peru Mestizo Project" with band leader Oscar Stagnaro and she's recording her new project that features her own compositions in different South American music styles as well as lyrics in English, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian.

### **The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center**

*Tickets to the Tribute to Bossa Nova are \$25. The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center is located at Five Towns College, 305 North Service Road, Dix Hills, New York, 11746-5857. For more information and ticket sales, please contact the Dix Hills Performing Arts Center box office at (631) 656-2148 or visit online at [www.DHPAC.org](http://www.DHPAC.org). Become a fan on Facebook! (Dix Hills Performing Arts Center).*

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