

For release from Jan 15, 2015, Washington, DC:

## **World Premiere of Bossa Fever!**

**World premiere of an original play featuring award-winning, world-jazz quartet Veronneau**

In the setting of Washington DC's legendary 1962 Lisner Auditorium "Brazilian Music" show, **Bossa Fever** tells the extraordinary story bringing the cool world's attention in the early 1960's. world when local guitarist Charlie Byrd merged the cool, new music of Brazil milestone recording of *Jazz Samba*, in The seductive sound captured the Miles Davis and even the Beatles, and today in the music of Thievery more. *Jazz Samba* became one of the firmly establishing the bossa rhythm



**Veronneau**

new sound of Brazilian bossa nova to the Bossa nova fever went viral around the and saxophone legend Stan Getz with American jazz to create the a DC church hall some 50 years ago. attention of Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, has continued to captivate and endure Corporation, Bebel Gilberto and many best-selling jazz albums of all time, into our musical DNA.

Through the eyes of the Brazilian and American musicians, **Bossa Fever** explores how musical cultures intersected to create possibly the first ever 'world' music. How did mainstream success impact the lives of bossa nova's originators such as Joao Gilberto, Tom Jobim and Astrud Gilberto, and the DC musicians who brought their music to public attention? What was the appeal of the music which catapulted the seductive bossa nova rhythm beyond Brazil into mainstream culture? What was the story behind *The Girl from Ipanema*?

**Bossa Fever** is written by British musician **Ken Avis**, the driving force behind 2014's hugely successful week-long Brazilian music festival at the Strathmore Arts Center, and co-producer of the documentary movie *Bossa Nova – the Brazilian Music Which Charmed the World*, currently screening at film festivals. The play is directed by playwright and Helen Hayes Award winning director **Mary Hall Surface**.

This new stage play features actors **Alina Collins Maldonado** and **Michael Litchfield**. Music of the bossa nova era is performed live by DC area, award-winning, world-jazz band **Veronneau**, who's *Jazz Samba Project* CD honored the 50 year anniversary of the Byrd/Getz album. The band earned Washington Area Music Association WAMMIE Awards for Best Jazz Band, Best Jazz Vocals and Best Jazz Recording. They are favorites of the DC area jazz scene and tour internationally throughout North America and Europe where they have performed live on BBC radio and at festival and clubs.

*Bossa Fever* is presented as part of INTERSECTIONS festival at the Atlas Performing Arts Center, Feb 20 – Mar 7. Eight days of performing and visual arts that celebrate the diversity, energy and excellence of artists and audiences from DC.

**World Premiere, Sat, Feb 21, 5:30pm – Atlas Performing Arts Center  
1313 H St NE, Washington, DC, 20002**

*"Veronneau clearly understands the nature of Jazz Samba and honors that classic recording through its own fine work".*  
**Dan Bilawsky - All About Jazz**

*"Welcome to the land of rhythm and groove. This is the music you feel in your hips and hear with your feet"*  
**Critical Jazz**

*"Veronneau not only captures the spirit of Jazz Samba but also of the period that followed...  
a cushion of sound that invites the listener into a New York coffee shop in the early 60's"*  
**Capitalbop**