



Rão Kyao

The ambassador of Portuguese music



Portuguese instrumentalist and composer, **Rão Kyao** is considered an ambassador of Portuguese music in which there is a meeting between popular sounds and their Indian and Arab origins.

He started playing tenor saxophone around 1963. He started playing in public from 1965, mainly in student sessions and at the Hot Club of Portugal, where he could be seen alongside great international figures such as Don Byas, Dexter Gordon, Pony. Poindexter, Ian Carr, among others. In 1967 he went to France and for two years played with big names in jazz and Indian and African ethnic music.

He returned to Portugal in 1974 and, two years later, recorded the debut album, entitled *Malper4us*, which imposed Rão Kyao as one of the most amazing instrumentalists and composers of Portuguese music.

Today Rão Kyao is involved in the project ***Sopro de Vida, Maria (Breath of Life)*** together with Renato Silva Júnior which is a recital of liturgical music by Portuguese authors such as Father Manuel Faria and Father José Pedro Martins among others. In this project, the musicians collected themes according to the progress of the liturgical year and at the same time, ordering the themes to the rhythm of the Eucharistic celebration, with themes that touch us for their simplicity, through a bamboo flute and accompanied by the piano. This recital consists of the instrumental version of a set of Marian chants and conveys a message of faith, hope and love.

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