

# SERENADE IN BLUE

## NOS ESTADOS UNIDOS

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TEXTO ORIGINAL, ESCRITO ESPECIALMENTE PARA O LANÇAMENTO DO CD NOS ESTADOS UNIDOS, E ASSINADO POR UM DOS MAIS RENOMADOS CRÍTICOS DA HISTÓRIA DO JAZZ, LEE JESKE, QUE GANHOU NOTORIEDADE COMO EDITOR DA REVISTA *CASHBOX* E COLUNISTA DO JORNAL *NEW YORK POST*.

In 1994, Antonio Carlos Jobim called Ithamara Koorax "one of the best singers in the current scene. Period".

What more do you want to know?

When it comes to Brazilian music, we Americans always seem to get our information a little late. Ithamara Koorax - it's such a beautiful name, it makes you just want to sing it: "Ithamara Koorax, Ithamara Koorax, Ithamara Koorax" - has been a star in Brazil for more than a decade. A Rio de Janeiro native with a four-octave range, Ithamara began studying music at the age of five and, by the time she was a teenager, she was touring Europe as a member of the Niterói Educational Center Choir. In the early Nineties she had a Top Ten hit with "Iluminada", from the novela *Riacho Doce*, and performed with such legends as Hermeto Pascoal,

Martinho da Vila, Edu Lobo, and Marcos Valle. In 1994, her album *Ithamara Koorax Live* won the Sharp Award (Brazil's equivalent of a Grammy) for Best Album by a New Artist. Her career since then has flourished.

But, hell, Ithamara Koorax has been a star in Japan for almost a decade - touring, scoring Top Ten albums, earning a four-and-a-half star review from Japan's jazz bible, *Swing Journal*. And in Europe, she had a dancefloor hit with her hip-hop version of Caetano Veloso and João Donato's "The Frog", toured extensively with percussion wizard Dom Um Romão, and recorded the album *Bossa Nova Meets Drum 'n' Bass*.

Her previous albums have featured guest appearances by, among many others, Antonio Carlos Jobim (in his last recording session),