

# MATUTO



## • • • THE BAND • • •

"THESE ENGAGING BRAZILIAN FORRÓ ROCKERS BORROW FROM JAZZ AND FUNK IN THEIR LIVELY SETS."

— THE NEW YORK TIMES 6/13/13

"THE JOYOUS, EBULLIENT MUSIC OF MATUTO MERGES THE FOLKLORIC MUSIC OF BRAZIL WITH THE SOUNDS OF ALL-AMERICAN BLUEGRASS. VIOLIN, ACCORDION AND A RANGE OF BRAZILIAN PERCUSSION GIVE THIS BAND, FOUNDED BY SOUTH CAROLINA NATIVE CLAY ROSS, A SEDUCTIVELY CROSS-CULTURAL APPEAL."

— CHICAGO TRIBUNE 9/20/12

"IF PURVEYORS OF THE HIGH LONESOME SOUND HAD HUNKERED DOWN IN NORTHEAST BRAZIL, THE RESULT MIGHT BE SOMETHING LIKE MATUTO. "BUMPKIN" IN BRAZILIAN SLANG, THIS BAND AIMS FOR THE HEIGHTS OF WORLD-MUSIC SOPHISTICATION."

— CHICAGO SUN TIMES 09/20/12

"BLAZINGLY TIGHT"

— STYLE WEEKLY / RICHMOND, VA 11/13/12

## • • • THE ALBUM • • •

MATUTO



Rolling drums and quicksilver accordion licks, earthy vibes and thoughtful reflections mingle on Matuto's latest refinement of their Appalachia-gone-Afro-Brazilian sound, *The Devil and The Diamond* (Motema Music; release: May 14th, 2013). The album draws on Brazil's folkloric rhythms like forró and coco, and on deep Americana—from bluegrass to spirituals to swamp jams.

"WHILE MANY BANDS ATTEMPT AMBITIOUS FUSION PROJECTS, FEW SUCCEED IN SUCH AN AUTHENTIC WAY."

— ROOTSWORLD 5/18/13

# PERFORMANCE



## • • • CONCERTS • • •

Matuto's electrifying stage show won them a spot at the 2011 WOMEX World Music Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark. Other honors include a 2012 appointment as "American Musical Ambassadors" through the U.S. State Department that has brought them to stages throughout West Africa, Northeast Brazil, and Eastern Europe.

**"MATUTO CREATED AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING."**

— *READING EAGLE 7/13/13*

**"I EXPECTED THE GREAT MUSICIANSHIP, BUT WHAT I DIDN'T EXPECT WAS THE IMMENSE CHARM AND ABILITY TO IMPART TO AN AUDIENCE THE TOTAL JOY OF BEING ALIVE."**

— *KATY HEINE*

*CORNELL UNIVERSITY / ITHACA, NY*

**"BY THE END OF THE CONCERT THEY WERE BELOVED BY ALL."**

— *CATHY SHERRILL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
THE OPERA HOUSE / BOOTHBAY HARBOR, ME*

Past performances include The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, The Krannert Center, UBS Atrium Series, Cornell University, Boothbay Harbor Opera House, Dartmouth University, University of Wisconsin, and more.

## • • • FESTIVALS • • •

Matuto is the ultimate festival band! They can wow audiences with their song-craft and musicianship during Main Stage Performances, keep a party in full swing with their high energy grooves on the Dance Stage, then engage children and enthusiasts during Interactive Workshops in the morning and afternoon.

Past festivals include Festival International de Louisiane, Houston I-Fest, Madison World Music Festival, Festival of Colors Detroit, Festival Du Bois, LEAF Festival, The Grassroots Festival, and many more.

**"MATUTO WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR FESTIVAL."**

— *PATRICE O'NEIL / WINTERGRASS BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL*

**"MATUTO IS SIMPLY ONE OF THE MOST INNOVATIVE GROUPS WE HAVE PRESENTED IN THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS... WHAT A JOY!"**

— *ALFREDO CAXAJ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SUNFEST / LONDON, ONTARIO*

**"THEIR AWESOME SONGS, GREAT MUSICIANSHIP, AND INTERACTION WITH OUR AUDIENCES WAS FANTASTIC. WE'D BOOK THEM AGAIN IN A SECOND."**

— *JACK MCLARNAN / WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL CHICAGO*

# EXPERIENCE



## • • • MULTIMEDIA • • •

In collaboration with graphic artist Ty Wilkins and the animation team Georgia, Matuto has created a projection based multimedia concert showcasing the artwork from "The Devil and The Diamond" which debuted in at New York's Lincoln Center.

**"MATUTO'S MULTIMEDIA PERFORMANCE OF 'THE DEVIL AND THE DIAMOND' NOT ONLY DREW RECORD AUDIENCES, BUT WOWED THEM THOROUGHLY.**

**THE DYNAMIC VISUAL INTEREST OF THEIR PROJECTIONS COMPLEMENTED A MASTERFUL MUSICAL PERFORMANCE WITHOUT DIMINISHING ITS ABILITY TO ENTRANCE THE AUDIENCE. THROUGH VIBRANT GRAPHICS, LYRICS, AND MUSICALITY IT WAS CLEAR THAT SONG AND RHYTHM FROM TWO SEEMINGLY DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD COULD BE FUSED AND ILLUMINATE HOW OUR SOUNDS AND STORIES ARE NOT SO DIFFERENT AFTER ALL. MATUTO'S CONCEPT AND DELIVERY IS AS EMOTIONALLY EDUCATIONAL AS IT IS ELECTRIFYINGLY ENTERTAINING! WE LOOK FORWARD TO MORE GREAT THINGS FROM THESE YOUNG WORLD MUSIC INNOVATORS!"**

**— HILLARY MCANDREW PLATE / ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
LINCOLN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

## • • • DANCE • • •

Matuto's music is all about the dance. On stage, the instruments swirl together, bobbing in and out, whirling around the tension at it's core: the push and pull between the Latin syncopations of Brazilian roots music and the folk traditions of the American South. It's Americana meets Brazil, an unlikely combination on paper, but on the dance floor it just feels right. Dances start with an introductory forró dance lesson provided by members of the band.

**"THE ACCORDION WILL MAKE YOU WANT TO THROW SALT ON YOUR HARDWOOD FLOORS AND TWO-STEP WITH SOMEONE."**

**— THE EXAMINER 5/18/13**

**"MATUTO BROUGHT AN ENERGY THAT LITERALLY HAD THE AUDIENCES UP AND DANCING."**

**— GENE CRETZ / U.S. AMBASSADOR TO GHANA**

**"MATUTO COMBINES BRAZILIAN FORRÓ AND AMERICAN BLUEGRASS INTO AN INFECTIOUS RHYTHM THAT IMMEDIATELY GOT OUR AUDIENCE ENGAGED AND MOVING. SUPERB SHOW!"**

**— RALPH RUSSO / CULTURAL ARTS DIRECTOR  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON**



# EDUCATION



## • • • WORKSHOPS • • •

Matuto has provided educational workshops for professional musicians and music lovers in a wide variety of contexts. They have shared these workshops with audiences of all ages and across varied cultural conditions. Their unique cultural experiences, understanding of Brazilian rhythms, and deeply rooted foundations in jazz and American folk music, make these workshops extremely unique, entertaining, and full of insight. Workshop themes for general audiences include Brazilian Folk Music, Modern American Roots Music, Rhythm Awareness, The Story of Forró and more.

**"OUR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS LOVED MATUTO."**

— JOCELYN REESE / DIRECTOR LEAF SCHOOLS & STREETS

**"EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE, THOUGHTFUL,  
AND INSPIRATIONAL."**

— KATE BENTLEY / DEPUTY CULTURAL ATTACHÉ  
U.S. EMBASSY LONDON

**"NOT ONLY A GIFTED ARTIST AND MUSICIAN, CLAY ROSS  
POSSESSES THAT RARE TALENT OF BEING ABLE TO  
CONNECT WITH PEOPLE, REGARDLESS OF AGE,  
NATIONALITY, OR BACKGROUND."**

— ROBERT P. SANDERS / U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL  
THESSALONIKI, GREECE

## • • • CULTURAL EXCHANGE • • •

Awarded the title of "American Musical Ambassadors" by the U.S. State Department, Matuto has toured throughout Brazil, Ireland, The United Kingdom, Macedonia, Greece, Kosovo, Turkey, Mozambique, Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Ghana, and Senegal.

**"ON BEHALF OF ALL NEW YORKERS, CONGRATULATIONS  
TO MATUTO ON EVERYTHING IT HAS ACCOMPLISHED."**

— MAYOR MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG

**"THEIR MUSIC TRANSCENDS CULTURAL DIVIDES  
ILLUSTRATING THE BEST OF CULTURAL DIPLOMACY  
PROGRAMMING IN ACTION."**

— DOUGLAS GRIFFITHS  
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO MOZAMBIQUE

**"MATUTO EXUDES ENERGY AND WARMTH."**

— ROBERT P. JACKSON / U.S. AMBASSADOR TO CAMEROON

**"MATUTO RAISED THE BAR FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGE IN  
COTE D'IVOIRE. THE BAND SPARKED A LEVEL OF  
ENTHUSIASM AND ENERGY UNPRECEDENTED IN  
ANYTHING THE EMBASSY HAS DONE TO DATE."**

— PHILLIP CARTER III / U.S. AMBASSADOR TO COTE D'IVOIRE