

## GABRIELE TRANCHINA

*A Song of Love's Color* (Jazzheads)



Gabriele Tranchina's debut release, 2003's *Old Country*, provided winning expression of her ability to expertly navigate both English and Brazilian jazz standards. Now, with the overdue arrival of her sophomore album, we get to experience the full breadth of her rainbow vividness. The German-born, New York-based vocalist with the dazzling three-octave range, who credits Flora Purim and Ella Fitzgerald equally for igniting her love for jazz singing, brings the entirety of her globetrotting panache to play, singing in English, Spanish, Portuguese, German, French and Hindi. Tranchina can swing with the vivacity of Anita O'Day and echo the fragility of Astrud Gilberto on ballads, but there is nothing derivative in her kaleidoscopic flourishes, embracing chants,

By Christopher Loudon

rap, spoken passages, scat and vocalese. Extending the album's verve, Tranchina focuses primarily on original material, including only three covers—Antonio Carlos Jobim's "Samba de Uma Nota Só" and "Inútil Paisagem," plus French superstar Michel Fugain's "Chante Comme Si Tu Devais Mourir Demain"—among the album's 11 tracks.

But creative due must also be extended to her husband, Joe Vincent Tranchina, who produced the album, shaped the arrangements (with assistance from co-producer and drummer Bobby Sanabria), provides piano accompaniment and was involved in the composition of all the original material. From the hypnotic invocation of "Asato Maa" (based on a traditional Hindu prayer), to the fervent whirl of "Voz," his contributions are consistently, bracingly elevating.