

Moreira Chonguiça

Sounds Of Peace (Morestar Entertainment, November 4th)

Mozambique jazz star **Moreira Chonguiça**'s eagerly anticipated 8th album **Sounds of Peace** is out on **November 4th**, five years after the acclaimed release 'M & M' which saw him partner with 'The Lion of Africa' **Manu Dibango**.

With influences including **Miles Davis**, **Fela Kuti**, **Percy Sledge** and long-time colleague Manu Dibango, the saxophonist's music mixes flavours from his Mozambican heritage with a sensibility that spans groove, soul, world music, smooth and contemporary jazz.

All that, infused with personal experiences from the past few years, makes Sounds of Peace a thought-provoking, reflective and introspective album which never loses sight of the joy of jazz.



Inspired by the rich diversity of the multitude of languages and tribes that make up Mozambique's cultural landscape, Moreira has used vocal melodies, rhythms and instruments on a number of the songs sung in a variety of different regional languages including Makhuwa, Makonde, and Changana.

This album is about celebrating diversity, differences and similarities amongst African people with the multiplicity of influence that came from the Arabs, the Asians, the Portuguese, and other Europeans.

It's about celebrating life with urgency. It's about peace, collaboration and the importance of mental health - all relevant issues in the turbulent times in which we live. The past few years will forever be etched into our memories for its strangeness and this album subtly tries to make sense of this unusual period in our history that caused the whole world to halt and breathe simultaneously.

"I want to show young people, to share with young people, who make up a significant part of the world's population, that there are no boundaries in culture no matter what race you are, what country you are from, what matters is that we need to share, we need to create space and silence to achieve things over which we have no control" Moreira says.

Moreira recorded this album in its entirety in Mozambique using young upcoming musicians, some who came through from his own project, the Morejazz Big Band that was launched eight years ago. It was a collective moment for these young people to dig deep within and express themselves musically.

"This was an extraordinary and emotional recording for me as some of the musicians had never been involved with a recording of this nature before" Moreira asserts.

The new album will be launched officially in Mozambique during November as well as on Friday 25 November at South Africa's biggest jazz festival, *Joy of Jazz* at Sandton Convention Centre on the Dinaledi stage.

MOREIRA CHONGUIÇA - saxophones
HÉLDER GONZAGA - bass | VANDO INFANTE - drums |
NICOLAU CAUANEQUE - keyboard and synth |
ALCIDIO MATHAVEL - mbira, djembe and percussion

Private Streaming, video, WAVs, photos & more info via press@jazzfuel.com

Background info / Liner Notes:

Mozambican jazz-saxophonist, composer, and producer, *Moreira Chonguiça* is feted as one of the finest exponents of innovative and original jazz from Africa.

As an independent artist with seven award-winning, globally informed, and celebrated albums – he is blazing a trail from his east-African roots to the world. He has a new album due for release in November that explores the traditional influences of Mozambique with jazz.

Moreira's energetic contemporary rhythmic compositions have garnered applauses across all six continents, exposed to and inspired by Miles Davis, Fela Kuti, Percy Sledge and Manu Dibango.

His unique sound, technical agility and ingenuity on the alto and soprano saxophone, coupled with passionate stage performance captivates audiences universally.

Moreira's passion and drive to promote Mozambican culture and lifestyle through jazz has seen the production of his Morejazz Series festival since 2012 and the formation of the Morejazz Big Band in 2014 become permanent fixtures on the jazz landscape of Mozambique.

Music discography

2006 – The Moreira Project: *Vol 1 – The Journey*

2009 – The Moreira Project: *Vol 2 – Citizen of the World*

2011- *Khanimambo*: Moreira Chonguiça pays tribute to the legends of Mozambique

2013 – *MP Reloaded*

2014 – *Sensasons* (not commercially released)

2015 – *Moreira Chonguiça live at the Polana Serena Hotel*

2017 – *M & M: Moreira Chonguiça and Manu Dibango*

Influences

Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Fela Kuti, Manu Dibango, Mirian Makeba, Prof. Orlando de Conceição, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King, Samora Machel...

Style

Energetic, contemporary, limitless music defined by Moreira's personality, culture and people .