



# El Pampero

The Official Gato Barbieri Newsletter

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## From the Editor's Desk

¡Saludos and Happy New Year, everyone! I hope that 2003 has been treating you very well so far. As the first month of this New Year comes to a close, I am pleased to announce that we now have a newsletter website at: <http://www.gatobarbierinewsletter.com>. It has quite a few features, including a newsletter archive, a guest book where you can post messages for Gato, and a photo section where you can view and also submit photos. From the site you can also request postcards and send eCards, listen to clips of Gato's music, explore some of the fun links to other sites and of course link to Gato's main site to check out his latest itinerary. We anticipate making this a very active, dynamic site and we want you to feel welcome and enjoy the site. So please stop by when you can, send us feedback and check back often for changes.

Best wishes/Mejores saludos,  
*Lois Roe, Editor*

## **Last Kiss single released to radio**

If you enjoy listening to smooth jazz radio, you may know that Gato's signature version of the Santana/Coster tune **Europa** is the most played single in all of smooth jazz radio history. But wouldn't it be nice to have another Gato tune up there next to it? Peak Records

has just released **Last Kiss** as a single. So keep your ears tuned to your favorite smooth jazz radio station and send in those requests! Let's see if we can't make a little more smooth jazz history.

## **Saxophonists Take Note!**

In celebration of Gato Barbieri's 50th album, Peak Records is giving away a Yamaha saxophone. To enter, visit <http://www.peak-records.com>. The winner will be announced April 4, 2003.



**Eine Kleine Kat Musik**

*Gato in Leverkusen, Germany  
October 31, 2002*

*By Peter Hart  
Hoorn, The Netherlands*

I went to Leverkusen, Germany (from Hoorn in Holland where I live), three and a half hours of driving, to see and hear one hour of Gato's music. I think it was called the City Theatre where Gato played at the Leverkusen Jazzstage. That evening there was a pretty large audience, maybe about a 1000 people. Before Gato there was a performance by a local hero by the name of Witzel (or something like that) and after Gato played Joshua Redman. It is a very modern clean place to be and the public was very German, there were not many people from other countries. As soon as Gato and the band started to play, I got chicken skin all over. This was the first time I had seen him live on stage, but I have known the music he makes since about 1980 when a friend let me listen to the Latin America chapter recordings. As on **The Shadow of the Cat** he played very relaxed and the band had a great *souplesse*; the sound quality was also very nice, so I had a great time. I thought many times he was looking at me, but with him wearing sunglasses this might be the idea for many. The performance was wonderful, though short, but that was probably due to the festival organization, and as a band, the sound was really near perfect. I went back in darkness and rain, but with Gato's music in mind. I really hope to see Gato in Holland one day when he will bring his tenor sax hanging onto his shoulder coming on stage as he did in

Leverkusen. Paradiso or Melkweg in Amsterdam, perhaps?

**Another Side of Gato**

*The 1998 Gershwin Centenary & 2001,  
2002 Complete Reunion Tours*

*By Ludovico D'Incerti  
Milano, Italy*

I am writing from Italy; I have had the opportunity to listen to Gato in several concerts he has done in the last years in my country, and I would like to share with you my experiences.

I am indebted to Gato since the seventies, when I discovered jazz by listening to **Chapter Three: Viva Emiliano Zapata**.

Since 1998 Gato has cooperated with trumpet player Enrico Rava and with other Italian musicians. Enrico and Gato are close friends since the early sixties. Unfortunately no recordings featuring Gato and Enrico were done in those years. In the late 90's, after Gato was back, both he and Enrico wanted very much to play together again. In 1998 Enrico organized a concert for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of George Gershwin's birth. The title of the concert was: "George Gershwin: 100 Years But Not For Me." It included the most famous standards by Gershwin such as *Rhapsody in Blue*, *Summertime*, *I Loves You Porgy*, *Someone to Watch over Me*, *I Got Rhythm*, etc. All the tunes were arranged for a string section of a classic orchestra, the *Orchestra dell' Accademia Filarmonica della Scala*; a jazz big band called *Il Paese degli Specchi* plus a Jazz quintet. Members of the quintet

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were: Enrico Rava on trumpet, Giovanni Tommaso on bass, Stefano Bollani on piano, the historic drummer Jimmy Cobb and Gato on tenor sax. The orchestra performed in Modena and in Milano, and, in spite of the fact that the group could not rehearse, they played terrific. I remember more than half an hour of claps at the end of the concerts. *The Man I Love* and *I Loves You Porgy*, with unforgettable solos by Enrico and by Gato, are probably the best versions of these standards I could ever listen to.

More recently, in 2001 Gato and Enrico put together a group called "Complete Reunion." The name recalls the title of the album **Complete Communion** recorded by Don Cherry in 1965, featuring Gato on tenor sax. As you know, this recording is considered a classic of free jazz. Besides Gato and Enrico, the group was composed of the drummer Aldo Romano, who also was on drums in **Complete Communion**, and by the younger Italian pianist Stefano Bollani and bassist Rosario Bonaccorso. The group toured in Italy and Spain in July 2001. Gato wanted to play in a way more similar to what he did in the early 70's, and the tunes that he and Enrico selected are from that period, such as *Antonio das Mortes* or the tango by Astor Piazzolla that can be heard on **The Third World**. (It seems

to me that the original composition was entitled *Preparense*: is it true?). They also played originals by Rava and Aldo Romano and classics tunes such as *Anthropology* by Charlie Parker or *Art Deco* by Don Cherry. The interplay grew more and more during the tour, and Enrico told me that the final concert in San Sebastian (Spain) was really wonderful.

Recently, the Complete Reunion group toured again in the south of Italy and in Germany. I attended the concert done in Salerno, and once again I appreciated the sound of the band. Gato's solos in Aldo Romano's original *Il Silenzio* and in *Bella* by E. Rava were terrific. I would like to suggest you visit the website [www.allaboutjazz.com](http://www.allaboutjazz.com). In the November issue there are some photos and, for those who read Italian, a review of this concert is available.

I hope that the band will perform again in the future, not only in Europe, so that also the US fans of Gato and the whole jazz community in your country, has the opportunity to discover a different aspect of Gato's musical personality.

Thank you for your attention.

Best wishes,  
Ludovico d'Incerti  
Milano, Italy

**Want to contribute to *El Pampero*? If you have a concert review, photo(s) or something else you'd like to share, send it to [elpampero@earthlinknet](mailto:elpampero@earthlinknet). We may not be able to include everything but we will look over everything we receive.**

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## **Gato's Concert Calendar**

*As of January 31, 2003*

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Venue/Location</b>	<b>Tickets/Information</b>
<b>March 15, 2003</b> (Saturday) Concert @8:30pm Gates open @5:30pm	<b>Miami Metro Zoo</b> 12400 S.W 152 <sup>nd</sup> St Miami, FL	Phone orders (305) 595-2376 Info (305) 238-0703 <a href="http://www.culture-council.org">http://www.culture-council.org</a>
<b>March 21, 2003</b> (Friday)	<b>Berks Jazz Festival</b> Reading, PA	<a href="http://www.berksjazzfest.com">http://www.berksjazzfest.com</a>
<b>March 25-30, 2003</b> (Tuesday-Sunday)	<b>The Blue Note</b> New York, NY	<a href="http://www.bluenote.net">http://www.bluenote.net</a>
<b>April 10-13, 2003</b> (Thursday-Sunday)	<b>Blues Alley</b> Washington, DC	<a href="http://www.bluesalley.com">http://www.bluesalley.com</a>
<b>April 26, 2003</b> (Saturday)	<b>Tarrytown Music Hall</b> Tarrytown, NY	<a href="http://www.jazzforumarts.org">http://www.jazzforumarts.org</a>

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