

## **RECORDER ENSEMBLE OF GROTA**

Release:

The Recorder Ensemble of Grota is formed by children and youth from the Grota do Surucucu, a poor community in Niterói, city near Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. The work with the recorder in this community began in 1995 with a group of four boys. As a result of the work these boys, today adults, started to study violin and formed the String Orchestra of Grota that has performed in several concert halls in Niterói, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Brasília and even abroad.

From 1998, Lenora Mendes assumed the recorder classes and today she works with approximately fifty students of different levels. The work with the recorder went to the formation of the Recorder Ensemble of Grota that presents itself sometimes with the more advanced and sometimes with all the students. Being the recorder a typical instrument from the Renaissance and Baroque periods, the Recorder Ensemble develops a repertoire of music from these periods in addition to Brazilian popular music.

### **Cachua la Nacimiento de Christo Nuestro Señor**

Christmas song contained in Codex Martínez Compañón (c.1782–1785), a manuscript edited in nine volumes by the Bishop of Trujillo, Peru, Baltasar Jaime Martínez Compañón, containing 1411 watercolors and 20 music scores that documented life in his diocese. This song, performed by the Grota Recorder Ensemble, is one of the most beautiful Christmas songs of the codex.