



## RAMANA VIEIRA

### PRESS AND TESTIMONIALS

*“Ramana Vieira, a rising star in World Music.”*

- San Francisco Examiner

*“The new voice of Portuguese World music”*

- Antonio Olilveira, Mundo Portuguese

*“No one in the United States is doing more to breathe new life into Fado than Ramana Vieira, a sultry, dramatic singer.”*

-Andrew Gilbert, San Francisco Chronicle

*“The long and noble tradition of Portuguese fado is ably updated by Ramana Vieira on this very good CD. Her fluid interpretation of low key lyrics brings out the melancholy soul of the music while never allowing the mood to become anything but uplifting. Some of the songs come from the established repertoire, some of them having also been sung by Amália Rodrigues, the singer to whom this album is dedicated and who is the queen referred to in the title. For anyone new to fado, which has been likened to the blues for its lyrical tales of loss and separation, this CD will be an informative delight.”*

– Bruce Crowther, jazz journalist and author

*Vieira’s songs are regal with exotic rhythms and warm esthetics that wrap the melodies in a beauty which appeals instinctively to the masses. Vieira’s vocals have a poetic resonance that makes the listener hang on every word and feel for the stories being told in the verses without possibly even understanding what is being said. Vieira’s songs transcend language barriers through her expressive style and smooth vocal textures. This is music that you can imagine being sung in the streets of Lisbon, the commercial hubs of Madrid, and the piazzas of Florence. The songs appeal to the masses and infiltrate the senses in a way that breathes warmth into the soul and supplies a healing salve over wounds.*

–Susan Frances, Jazz Review

*“A prominent influence on Lágrimas de Rainha (Tears of a Queen) is the late Amália Rodrigues (who, arguably, was to fado what Edith Piaf was to French chanson and Celia Cruz was to salsa), and there are also hints of Dulce Pontes (who was born almost 40 years after Rodrigues) in Vieira's soulful, torchy performances. But instead of going out of her way to emulate her influences, Vieira demonstrates that she is her own person -- although the expressive singer obviously isn't afraid to carve out an appealing identity of her own. And that willingness to take chances serves Vieira well on the promising Lágrimas de Rainha.”*

- Alex Henderson, Billboard & All Music Guide

*“If you are a fan of Fado and are looking for something a little unusual, this may just be your album. Each song features Vieira’s rich, at times smoky, distinctive voice. Her traditional singing sustains notes that often end with a seductive growl. Vieira’s voice provides the expected warbling, soulful singing and roundness typically expected of a fadista, but the musical arrangements here are what distinguishes this album from a more traditional approach. This album will appeal to those appreciative of Fado’s sentimental, comforting romance, its familiar strains and its immortal tales of love, song and laughter.” 3 ½ stars*

– Cynthia Foo, MuzikReview.com

*“I have had the opportunity to interview and listen to a number of artists in the Portuguese Community. I found by listening to Ramana's album a sense of deepest sympathy towards the "Fado" its roots and a commitment to keep Fado alive.”*

– Joao Manuel Dias, KSQQ Portuguese Radio

*“Portuguese Fado music is extremely melodic and beautiful and so are the talents of Ramana Vieira. Her voice and her music are as sincere and beautiful as the language and lands of the Acores. I was mesmerized by her ...”*

- Mayor Shelia Young, City of San Leandro

*While recent Fado successes have focused on the still, reflective side of the poetry-driven folk style, Ramana Vieira’s approach is kinetic and powerful. The singer’s stunning rendition of the late Amália Rodrigues classic “Estranha Forma De Vida” acknowledges the lineage amidst a stately piano arrangement.”*

– Starbucks [Hearmusic.com](https://www.hearmusic.com)

*“She is gifted with a voice that is both breathtaking and intoxicating”.*

- AK Music and Talent