

With *ATACAMA*, her second album, Clélya Abraham continues a deep and radiant musical journey, weaving a delicate thread between the personal and the universal. As a pianist, composer, and singer, she draws from her Afro-Caribbean roots and jazz heritage to create a richly blended sound, infused with gwoka, samba, maloya, séga, and nu soul — rhythms and harmonies that seem to speak with the stars.

Joined by close musical partners — Samuel F'hima on double bass, Ananda Brandão on drums, and Kévin Lazakis on guitar — she explores new sonic textures and asserts an increasingly distinctive musical voice. The title *ATACAMA*, inspired by the Chilean desert known as one of the best places on Earth to observe the sky, reflects her yearning for infinity and introspection: a spiritual quest where music becomes a language of the soul and a cosmic resonance.

Shaped by a path that blends familial musical heritage, classical training, and immersion in jazz scenes, Clélya Abraham affirms her singular place in the contemporary music landscape. Between science and intuition, memory and mystery, *ATACAMA* is an invitation to elevation, connection, and joy.

**ATACAMA** begins in the heart of the Milky Way with **ORION**, the spiral arm that contains our solar system. With fiery energy, this piece blends eras, borrowing from European classical music and Caribbean traditions, and shines with a piano solo that unfolds in a powerful flight.

After an atmospheric and exploratory introduction, **MYSTIQUE** gains steady momentum and culminates in an epic sense of euphoria.

The rhythms of Guadeloupean *gwoka*, inherited from her father, resonate in **PÉYI**. Inspired by the *tumblak* rhythm — symbol of love and fertility — the track welcomes the African guitar of Beninese master **Lionel Loueke**.

**TAKOUT** pays tribute to a rhythm created in the 1970s, which became a joyful staple of *gwoka* celebrations. **SÉRÉNITÉ**, based on the *lewoz* rhythm, invites introspection and inner strength to face the turbulence of the world.

The lively and percussive **CÉLÉBRATION** shines a spotlight on *maloya* from Réunion Island, while **NÉBULEUSE**, evoking cosmic landscapes born from exploding stars, draws inspiration from the music of Mauritius.

**MABOUYA** is the Creole name for the gecko — a wall-climbing lizard that meditates in the sun. This track, inspired by *baião* and slow samba from Brazil, encourages the listener to enjoy the simple pleasures of life.

**SÃO PAULO** was composed for a Franco-Brazilian collaboration imagined by the Jazz à Vienne festival and Brazil's SESC. The piece draws from vibrant Brazilian rhythms such as *afoxé*, *maracatu de Baía*, and *samba de Rio*.

While Clélyla often punctuates her instrumentals with her agile scat vocals, she also offers two original songs she composed and wrote. **I KEEP MOVING** is a pop-folk ballad that encourages a curious, open-minded outlook, inviting listeners to challenge preconceived ideas and see the world from new perspectives.

**Dear Soul**, influenced by soul and gospel, is a heartfelt letter to the soul, diving into introspection in search of inner guidance.

Finally, **ESPÉRANCE**, a dreamy poem set to guitar, closes the album. It evokes the hope found in contemplating the starry sky — a source of light in the face of shared suffering.

Wandering through warm musical landscapes, reaching toward both the infinite and the intimate, and crafting an open, virtuosic, and inventive form of jazz, Clélyla Abraham's *ATACAMA* is a rich and generous body of work with a deeply uplifting message.

It is an antidote to discouragement — a music that clears away the clouds to let the light shine through.

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