

# Office of the Mayor

CITY OF NEW YORK



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS:** NEW YORK CITY IS A CULTURAL CAPITAL OF THE WORLD AND A MAGNET FOR ARTISTIC TALENT. THAT IS WHY WE ARE EXCITED TO COMMEMORATE THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS WHO LEFT HIS MARK NOT ONLY ON THE WORLD OF MUSIC, BUT ALSO ON NEW YORK CITY, WHERE HE LIVED AND WORKED REGULARLY DURING THE FINAL DECADE OF HIS LIFE.

**WHEREAS:** HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS WAS A VISIONARY COMPOSER AND THINKER. HE CREATED ORCHESTRAL, INSTRUMENTAL, VOCAL, AND DANCE WORKS THAT EXPRESSED HIS DEEP BELIEF IN THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF HUMANITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT. HE OFTEN WROTE ELEMENTS OF BRAZILIAN FOLK MUSIC INTO HIS CREATIONS, AND HE COMPOSED PIECES ABOUT NEW YORK CITY DURING HIS TIME HERE. THE RESULT OF HIS EXPERIMENTAL WORK IS MUSIC THAT BRIDGES CULTURAL DIVIDES AND CELEBRATES DIVERSITY—EXACTLY THE KIND OF ART WE ARE MOST PROUD TO CELEBRATE.

**WHEREAS:** LIKE THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF BRAZILIANS WHO VISIT NEW YORK EACH YEAR, HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS LOVED OUR GREAT CITY. THE VILLA-LOBOS MUSIC SOCIETY HAS PUT TOGETHER WONDERFUL EVENTS TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THIS HONORARY NEW YORKER, INCLUDING A FULL-LENGTH DANCE WORK, GREEN MANSIONS, WITH A VILLA-LOBOS SCORE. TOGETHER, WE ARE KEEPING THIS AMAZING ARTIST'S LEGACY ALIVE, AND AS OUR CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS CONTINUE TO FOSTER AN APPRECIATION FOR MUSIC AND THE ARTS, WE LOOK FORWARD TO NEW YORK REMAINING THE FREEST AND MOST DYNAMIC CITY IN THE WORLD.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, IN REMEMBRANCE OF THIS LEGENDARY COMPOSER, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM SUNDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 2012 IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK AS:**

**"HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS DAY"**



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO  
SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK TO BE AFFIXED.

*Michael R. Bloomberg*  
MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG  
MAYOR

**TURISMO**

Conheça as belezas do Ceará, a terra das jangadas, de José de Alencar e da mulher rendeira. *Página 19*



**POLÍTICA**

Na ONU, Fernando Henrique diz que Brasil e África devem aumentar o intercâmbio. *Página 14*



**INTERESSE**

A revolução tecnológica e a comunicação. *Página 24*

# The BrazilianS

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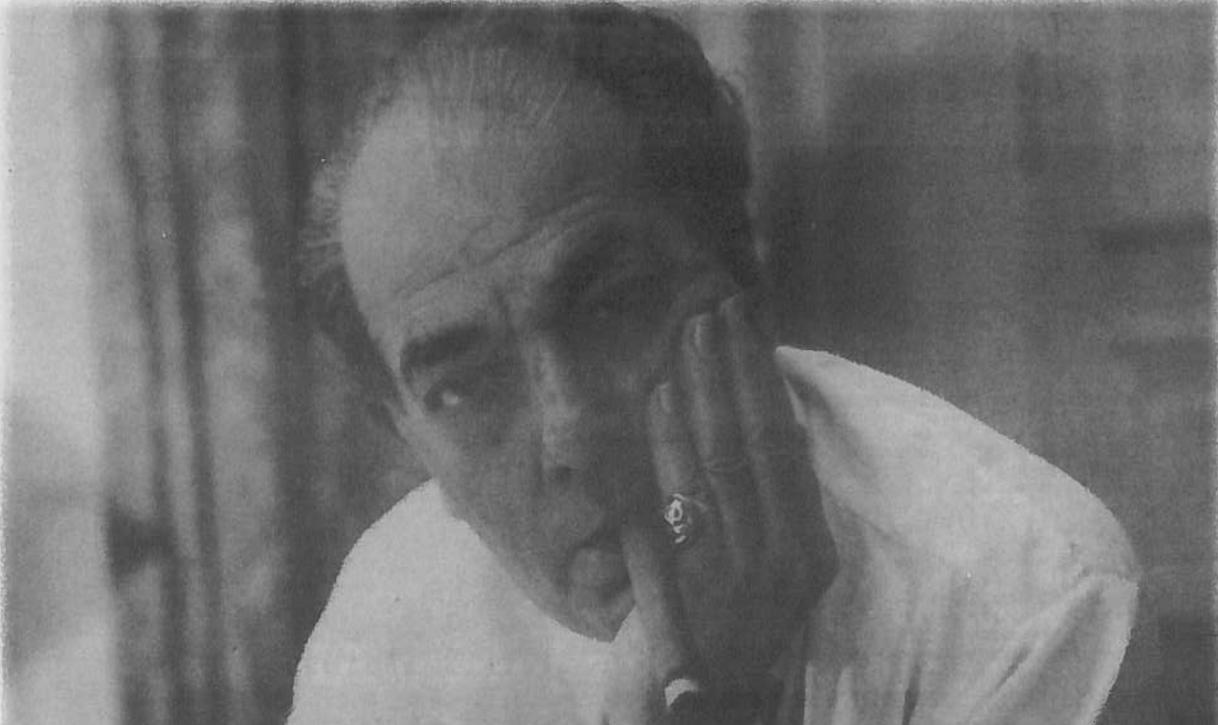
## 2012 - VILLA-LOBOS' YEAR

*Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos will have a historic year-long celebration of his 125-year legacy*

Heitor Villa-Lobos - a musical giant of Brazil and of the twentieth century -- a composer with an unmatched international career -- would be 125 years old in 2012. The Villa-Lobos Music Society, Inc., in conjunction with admirers of this great Brazilian composer, has planned a year-long series of events to celebrate and honor his legacy.

Events will feature performances of Villa-Lobos' music, and also will introduce Green Mansions - a new full-length dance work with an all Villa-Lobos score -- and highlight Villa-Lobos' philosophical vision of bridging cultural divides through music, and fostering harmony between mankind and nature. *Page 7*





## A Historic Birthday Anniversary in 2012 for Heitor Villa-Lobos and a Year-Long Celebration of His 125-Year Legacy

In the year of 2012, Brazil will celebrate a huge milestone: the 125th birthday of Heitor Villa-Lobos, certainly one of the music geniuses of the contemporary world. No single event would be sufficient to mark this historic birthday milestone for such a historic Brazilian figure, so The Villa-Lobos Music Society, Inc. has planned a year-long series of events to celebrate and honor Villa-Lobos. Events will feature performances of Villa-Lobos' music, and also will introduce Green Mansions - a new full-length dance work with an all Villa-Lobos score - and highlight Villa-Lobos' philosophical vision of bridging cultural divides through music, and fostering harmony between mankind and nature.

The celebration begins on Jan. 22, 2012 with a special 125th birthday year welcome reception at The Hôtel Plaza Athénée in New York City. Villa-Lobos lived there in 1958 and 1959 when the hotel was still called The Alrae Hotel. At this venue, he composed the music for the score of the 1959 MGM movie adaptation of naturalist William Henry Hudson's novel "Green Mansions." The feature was set in the Amazon Rainforest and starred Hollywood legends such as Audrey Hepburn, Anthony Perkins and Lee J. Cobb, among others.

This welcome reception will feature an exclusive look at an often overshadowed part of Villa-Lobos' history, with special showings of memorabilia and films that were part of his compositions. The viewer will have the opportunity to see some aspects of those who danced and choreographed Villa-Lobos' works like Carmen de Lavallade, José Limón, Natalya Stavro, Graciela Daniele and Violet-

te Verdy. The event will also feature an exclusive live performance of the Villa-Lobos' music by Dr. Alfred Heller, in the piano, and Julia Sakharova, in the violin.

The reception evening will culminate with the reading of a proclamation from Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg of the City of New York declaring "Heitor Villa-Lobos Day" in honor of Villa-Lobos' upcoming 125th birthday anniversary, which will occur on March 5, 2012.

On March 5, 2012, there will be a very special 125th birthday anniversary concert and reception at Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Center in New York City. The concert will feature works by Villa-Lobos, selected for this historic occasion by Villa-Lobos' friend and protégé, Dr. Alfred Heller, who on this evening will also share his personal insights and remembrances of "the man behind the music." Works performed will be from the broad spectrum of Villa-Lobos' music, and include performances by Alfred Heller (piano), Richard Miller (guitar), Peter Prosser (cello) and Naya Rodriguez-Castañedo (soprano), as well as a special performance of the wonderful choral work, the Choros #3.

### OTHER EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE SPRING OF 2012 WILL FEATURE THINGS "CLOSE TO THE HEART" OF VILLA-LOBOS:

- On April 22, 2012, there will be a special Earth Day celebration focusing on the Amazon Rainforest that Villa-Lobos loved - often incorporating its vibrant sounds

into his music - and current rainforest conservation issues and efforts, including the impact of dietary choices on human health and environmental sustainability. Guest speakers will include Sy Montgomery from The Rainforest Conservation Fund and Alexandra Jamieson, a noted vegan chef, holistic nutrition expert and author, who was recently featured in the award-winning documentary "Super Size Me."

- On May 22, 2012, in partnership with the Americas Society, there will be a special presentation on Villa-Lobos as a storyteller through music, with particular emphasis on his work in connection with the William Henry Hudson Green Mansions novel. The featured speaker for this evening will be Dr. Amy D. Ronner, a noted authority on Hudson's work and author of the book "W. H. Hudson: The Man, The Novelist, The Naturalist."

The year-long celebration will culminate with a presentation of selections from the new Green Mansions dance work at a Gala scheduled for Oct. 1, 2012 at the NYU Skirball Center for the Performing Arts in New York City. This will be a fitting conclusion to the 125th birthday anniversary commemoration and an exciting start to the continuing celebration of Villa-Lobos' life and legacy through this new work created in his honor.

For more information on all of the wonderful Villa-Lobos 125th birthday anniversary celebration events, contact The Villa-Lobos Music Society, Inc. at [villobosms@aol.com](mailto:villobosms@aol.com) or call 212-427-5103. Tickets for the March 5, 2012 birthday anniversary concert and reception can be purchased directly through the Merkin Concert Hall Box Office by calling 212-501-3330.



The Villa-Lobos Music Society, Inc.  
153 East 92<sup>nd</sup> Street, #4R  
New York, New York 10128  
212-427-5103

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE VILLA-LOBOS MUSIC SOCIETY ANNOUNCES THE PROGRAM AND PERFORMING ARTISTS FOR ITS  
SPECIAL CONCERT CELEBRATING THE 125<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY OF HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS

*The 125<sup>TH</sup> Birthday Anniversary of Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos will be celebrated with a special 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary Concert and Reception on March 5, 2012*

January 6, 2012 New York, N.Y. - The Villa-Lobos Music Society has announced that on March 5, 2012 (the birthday of Heitor Villa-Lobos) a 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary Concert will be presented by The Villa-Lobos Music Society at Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Center, New York City.

The program selected by Dr. Alfred Heller, a friend and protégé of Villa-Lobos, will include music from a cross-section of the composer's works for piano, guitar, cello, solo voice and chorus. Included will be *Rudepoêma* for piano solo, *Choro Number 1* for guitar, *Modinha* (from the *Serestas*) and *Bachianas Brasileiras Number 5-Aria* for guitar and soprano, *Bachianas Brasileiras Number 2* (complete) for piano and cello (including the last movement called "The Little Backwoods Train"), *Choros Number 3* for male chorus, and *Songs of the Tropical Forest* from *Forest of the Amazon* for piano and soprano.

According to Dr. Heller, "*this program is a testament and tribute to the compositional virtuosity and versatility of Villa-Lobos, a master composer whose facility was unmatched – writing in any form, for any instrumentation, for any genre, with the power and inspiration of genius.*"

Performing artists will be Alfred Heller (Piano), Richard Miller (Guitar), Naya Rodriguez-Castiñado (Soprano), Peter Prosser (Cello) and Mollie Nichols (Chorus Conductor).

A 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary Celebration Reception will follow the concert.

Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased through the Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Center box office in person, by calling 212-501-3330, or at [www.kaufman-center.org/merkin-concert-hall](http://www.kaufman-center.org/merkin-concert-hall).

This concert is part of the year-long series of celebration events, which will be highlighted by the presentation of "Green Mansions", the new full-length dance work created for the historic 125<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary commemoration. "Green Mansions" combines the instrumental and vocal music of Villa-Lobos with an adaptation for dance of naturalist William Henry Hudson's classic novel "Green Mansions", set in the Amazon rainforest. Directed and choreographed by Margo Sappington, it is scheduled to be previewed at The Green Mansions Gala, planned for October 1, 2012.

For more information about the 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary Concert, the Green Mansions Gala and all of the Anniversary Events, visit [www.greenmansionsproject.info](http://www.greenmansionsproject.info), or contact Alfred Heller, President, The Villa-Lobos Music Society, Inc., at 212-427-5103 or e-mail at [info@greenmansionsproject.info](mailto:info@greenmansionsproject.info).

About The Villa-Lobos Music Society:

The Villa-Lobos Music Society, Inc., a 501(c)(3) arts organization, was formed in 1986 by Villa-Lobos protégé and friend, Alfred Heller. Its mission is to sustain and increase awareness of the music of Heitor Villa-Lobos, of his passion for music education, and of his belief that music is the universal language capable of bringing together all peoples, and of inspiring love and respect for the natural world.

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New York, New York 10128  
212-427-5103

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THE VILLA-LOBOS MUSIC SOCIETY ANNOUNCES – “VILLA-LOBOS AND DANCE” – A SPECIAL EVENT IN ITS YEAR-LONG CELEBRATION OF THE 125<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY OF HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS

*The celebration of the 125<sup>TH</sup> Birthday Anniversary of Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos will begin with a special event highlighting the connection between Villa-Lobos’ music and dance.*

January 4, 2012 New York, N.Y. - The Villa-Lobos Music Society has announced that on January 22, 2012, a special event entitled “Villa-Lobos and Dance” will be presented by The Villa-Lobos Music Society at The Hôtel Plaza Athénée, New York City.

This special event will feature an exclusive look at the connection between Villa-Lobos’ music and dance during his lifetime and beyond, and will include displays of memorabilia from, and films of, dance works commissioned, choreographed and danced to his music by artists from diverse dance disciplines such as Janet Collins, Carmen de Lavallade, Violette Verdy, José Limón, Natalya Stavro, Graciela Daniele, Mark Morris Dance Group, among many others.

Also featured at this special event will be the live performance by Dr. Alfred Heller (Piano), and Julia Sakharova (Violin) of the Villa-Lobos music that has been selected for the first pas de deux between Rima and Abel – the main characters in “Green Mansions”, the new full-length dance work created as part of the historic 125<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary commemoration.

“Green Mansions” combines the instrumental and vocal music of Villa-Lobos with an adaptation for dance of naturalist William Henry Hudson’s classic novel Green Mansions, set in the Amazon rainforest. Directed and choreographed by Margo Sappington, it is scheduled to be previewed at The Green Mansions Gala, planned for October 1, 2012.

According to Dr. Alfred Heller, a friend and protégé of Villa-Lobos, “*From the time Villa-Lobos first saw the Ballets Russes when they toured Brazil in the mid-1900’s to the end of his life, he wrote music for dance and music that moved the spirit to dance. Highlighting Villa-Lobos’ connection to dance, and creating the new Green Mansions dance work with an all-Villa-Lobos score, is a truly fitting way to commemorate his life and continue his legacy.*”

For more information about the “Villa-Lobos and Dance” special event, the Green Mansions Gala and all of the Anniversary Events, visit [www.greenmansionsproject.info](http://www.greenmansionsproject.info), or contact Alfred Heller, President, The Villa-Lobos Music Society, Inc., at 212-427-5103 or e-mail [info@greenmansionsproject.info](mailto:info@greenmansionsproject.info).

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THE VILLA-LOBOS MUSIC SOCIETY ANNOUNCES A SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY EVENT AND A FUNDRAISING GALA FOR ITS NEWEST PROJECT, "GREEN MANSIONS"

*The 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos will be celebrated with a series of special events and a Fundraising Gala for its production of "Green Mansions", a new full length dance work.*

November 7, 2011 New York, N.Y. - The Villa-Lobos Music Society has announced that on March 5, 2012 (the birthday of Villa-Lobos), a 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert will be presented by The Villa-Lobos Music Society at Merkin Concert Hall, Kaufman Center, New York City. The program will be selected by Alfred Heller, friend and protégé' of Villa-Lobos.

This event will kick-off a year long celebration, which is highlighted by the announcement of a new cause driven cultural event that combines the instrumental and vocal music of Villa-Lobos, with an adaptation, for dance, of naturalist William Henry Hudson's classic novel Green Mansions, set in the Amazon rainforest.

The Green Mansions Gala, scheduled for October 1, 2012, is an exclusive opportunity to preview this new full-length dance work directed and choreographed by Margo Sappington. According to Sappington, "*Green Mansions*" *tells a powerful story and effectively communicates a message that will ignite the human spirit and inspire love and respect for one another and for our natural environment*".

In addition to the Gala there will be a series of Green Mansions "Spotlight Events" that will feature experts in the areas of literature, music, dance and rainforest eco-systems, with in-depth lectures and stimulating conversations to inspire and inform on a variety of subjects that surround "Green Mansions".

For more information about the Gala and all of the Anniversary Events, you may visit the website at [www.greenmansionsproject.info](http://www.greenmansionsproject.info), or contact, Alfred Heller, President, The Villa-Lobos Music Society, Inc., at 212-427-5103 or e-mail at [info@greenmansionsproject.info](mailto:info@greenmansionsproject.info).

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