



Super Sonic Samba School

sdsupersonic@gmail.com

619.796.3139 sssamba.org

On Wednesday, September 12, 2012, Mestre Nininho and Derek Wright taught a guest workshop on *maracatu* percussion at the World Beat Center in San Diego, California. The workshop was hosted by Super Sonic Samba School, a non-profit community drum and dance group in San Diego. The students in attendance included members of Super Sonic Samba School and of Maracatu Jangada, a San Diego based maracatu group.

The workshop was inspiring and informative for all in attendance. The musicians who play maracatu were excited to learn some of Nininho's modern and challenging maracatu and afoxé arrangements. The samba players who normally play batucada and samba reggae were excited to learn new rhythms on traditional maracatu instruments. The weekly Super Sonic dance class took place simultaneously and the dancers enjoyed dancing to the new rhythms. At the end of the workshop, Nininho and Derek had all dancers and drummers dancing ciranda together. Everyone left at the end of the night feeling inspired having learned a lot about Pernambuco culture and music.

Nininho also taught a hand drumming workshop on ilu for a small group of drummers on Friday September 14th. He taught each rhythm with care while explaining their roots and significance. The drummers learned a lot and were honored to have spent the time learning from the Mestre.

The San Diego Brazilian music community has benefitted greatly from this cultural exchange with Nininho. He is a talented musician and gifted teacher with a rich background of knowledge and experience. We look forward to working with him again in the future.

Please feel free contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Schmitz

contact@stefanieschmitz.net

(858) 344-6544