

Carminho

Carminho grew up surrounded by the sound of fado guitars and voices, the daughter of renowned fado singer Teresa Siqueira. She first performed in public at the age of 12 at the Coliseu dos Recreios in Lisbon. After earning a degree in Marketing and Advertising, she traveled extensively and took part in humanitarian missions before dedicating herself entirely to music.

In 2009, she released *Fado*, her debut album, which achieved platinum status—a remarkable accomplishment for a first record—and was named Best Album of 2011 by the British magazine *Songlines*. She performed at WOMEX 2011 and at UNESCO headquarters in Paris as part of the campaign that led to fado being recognized as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

In 2012, she released *Alma*, her second album. After performing in major theatres across Europe and around the world, she fulfilled a dream by recording with Milton Nascimento, Chico Buarque, and Nana Caymmi, resulting in a Brazilian edition of the album featuring three previously unreleased tracks. Her standing as one of Portugal's most internationally acclaimed artists was further consolidated with a Portuguese Golden Globe Award and the Carlos Paredes Prize, while both of her first two albums achieved double-platinum status.

In 2014, she released her third album, *Canto*, further deepening her artistic connection with Brazil. The album marked her first collaboration with Caetano Veloso and his youngest son, Tom Veloso, who entrusted her with the previously unreleased song “O Sol, Eu e Tu.”

In 2016, she was invited by the family of Antônio Carlos Jobim, the iconic Brazilian composer, to record her fourth album, *Carminho Canta Tom Jobim*, together with the last band that had accompanied Jobim during the final decade of his life. On the album, Carminho performs duets with Chico Buarque, Maria Bethânia, Marisa Monte, and Fernanda Montenegro. The project was met with widespread acclaim, earning platinum certification and a Portuguese Golden Globe for Best Album.

Released in 2018, *Maria* is Carminho's fifth album, self-produced and enriched by several original compositions. The record embraces her fado roots, honouring tradition while offering a contemporary perspective and a reinterpretation of the fado she absorbed during childhood.

In 2023, she released *Portuguesa*, reaffirming her artistic identity. The year was marked by several significant moments, including her performance of the original composition “Estrela” for Pope Francis during World Youth Day 2023 before an audience of 1.5 million people and a live broadcast reaching 600 million households worldwide. In cinema, Carminho made a special appearance in the acclaimed film *Poor Things*, directed by Yorgos Lanthimos and winner of the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival. The film received 11 Academy Award nominations, including Best Original Score. In her scene, Carminho delivered a powerful live performance of “O Quarto,” singing and playing the Portuguese guitar on set. That same year, she was invited by Coldplay to perform the fado song “Coimbra” alongside Chris Martin and Bárbara Bandeira at Coimbra Stadium.

Also in 2023, Carminho joined Caetano Veloso on his *Meu Coco* tour, where they performed “Você-Você,” a song written by Veloso, inspired by Carminho and created especially for her following their conversations about the Portuguese language. Accompanied by an extensive tour presenting *Portuguesa*, her work was recognised with a Latin Grammy nomination for Best Portuguese Language Roots Album and a Portuguese Golden Globe for Best Live Performance.

In 2024, Carminho released her first EP, *Carminho at Electrical Audio*, recorded entirely in analogue with legendary producer Steve Albini in Chicago. The EP emerged from a single day of recording at Electrical Audio Studios and features four tracks. It includes two original fados composed by Carminho, a musical interpretation of António Gedeão's poem "Gota de Água," and "Os Argonautas" by Caetano Veloso, featuring a guest appearance by the Brazilian music icon himself.

Carminho's latest album, *Eu Vou Morrer de Amor ou Resistir* (I Will Die of Love or Resist), reinforces her profound commitment to the ongoing exploration of fado in all its forms. The work is inspired by women as interpreters and by the parallel narratives that shape their lives. The track "Saber" features a special guest appearance by Laurie Anderson.

With a career marked by artistic excellence and international acclaim, Carminho continues her path of creation and live performance with her powerful voice, remarkable talent, and unwavering artistic dedication.

ABOUT THE ALBUM *EU VOU MORRER DE AMOR OU RESISTIR

Eu Vou Morrer de Amor ou Resistir is the seventh album of Carminho's career. Produced by the artist herself, it comprises eleven compositions, some featuring music and lyrics written by Carminho, alongside several traditional fados. The album confirms her deep dedication to the continuous exploration of the genre in all its forms while further establishing the unique and personal artistic voice that sets her apart within today's musical landscape.

The album also includes special collaborations: American artist Laurie Anderson joins Carminho on the track "Saber" (music by Carminho, poetry by Ana Hatherly), while pianist Mário Laginha performs on "Dia Cinzento," the album's closing piece.

Another innovation of the project is the inclusion of new instruments that enrich Carminho's familiar sound palette, including the Vocoder, the Cristal Baschet, and the Ondes Martenot.

Carminho drew inspiration from multiple sources while creating this album: from the Portuguese guitar ensembles of Raúl Nery and Martinho d'Assunção to the great voices of Maria Teresa de Noronha, Beatriz da Conceição, and her mother, Teresa Siqueira. Added to these influences are women with a powerful presence in music history, such as Wendy Carlos and Annette Peacock, both pioneers of electronic music since the 1960s.

A leading voice of contemporary fado, celebrated for the intensity of her interpretation and her ability to innovate within the genre, Carminho explores the pathways of the human soul, where multiple and often contradictory emotions coexist. This ambiguity is reflected in the album's title itself.

"In fado, people often die of love," she says, "but the ability to resist is something that interests me deeply and something I want to sing about."

"In this work, I was greatly inspired by women, by the idea that women occupy a central place as interpreters, but also that within women themselves there are many parallel narratives, even ambiguous ones," she adds.

As American musician and art curator John Corbett writes in the album's liner notes:

"Carminho's voice blurs definitions. It is contemporary and traditional, and within it tradition has never lost its contemporaneity. When you hear her sing, those boundaries become irrelevant; she moves us so deeply that time seems suspended—or rather, time continues, time does not stop. And the walls that divide music into categories become so trivial that they lose all meaning.

The concept is not a synthesis of fado and experimental music, but rather the opening of one toward the other. It is about feeling the emotions associated with another music, another musical tradition, and experiencing them within the emotional core of fado. 'It is not about changing fado,' Carminho insists. 'It is about working it, as a craftswoman would, with her own hands.'"