

Aline Morales



Since her travels to Canada in 2003, and her decision to settle in Toronto a few years later, Aline Morales has been well known locally as a dynamic singer, percussionist, and bandleader. However, it was the release of her debut solo album, the Juno Award-nominated *Flores, Tambores e Amores*, which brought national attention to this unique artist. Released in 2011, the album was met with widespread critical acclaim, reaching No. 1 on Canada's folk/world charts and landing on several best of 2011 lists. Born and raised in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, Aline began her performing career as a child. She trained in capoeira, and by the time she reached her 20s, she had performed in a variety of traditional and modern bands, including one of Brazil's most well-known maracatu groups, *Nacao Estrela Brilhante do Recife*, led by Mestre Walter de Franca. Since her arrival in Toronto, she has been a tireless promoter of the traditional maracatu rhythms of north-eastern Brazil, performing with her 30-member percussion troupe, *Baque de Bamba*, at countless outdoor festivals, leading parades through Kensington Market in Toronto, and even starring in Ontario Tourism's "There's No Place Like This" commercials.