I. Brazilian music gets its distinct sound from three different cultures: the Indigenous peoples, the Portuguese settlers, and the African slaves. This Brazilian sound can be heard in the traditional music and even in some contemporary songs.

A. This relatively recent Gilberto Gil performance truly illustrates this point. Look for the African, Indigenous, and Portuguese influences. If you’re not sure what to look for, don’t worry! We’ll get into that later this week. ;-)
   http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zq37W4KTWXs

B. Brazil is a large country with several groups of native peoples. In this clip, observe how the melody lines of this repetitive, chant-like song, resemble those in the contemporary Brazilian selection from yesterday.

   Notice how both this clip and the Gilberto Gil song from yesterday repeat the phrases several times with mild variations. Also, the movement of the melody tends to descend, moving down the scale toward a common resting tone, or ending note.

   Warning: This clip contains ethnically appropriate semi-nudity.
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yyZQmZ5TyeE&feature=player_embedded

C. From Portugal comes the four string instrument the cavaquinho (very similar to the Hawaiian ukulele - also from Portugal). It is a very important instrument in Brazilian music.

   Here is Henrique Cazes, Brazilian master of the Cavaquinho from Rio de Janeiro. Can you hear the European influence? http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GVnK9cvhnyk

D. African slaves contributed greatly to the development of rhythm and dance in Brazil. The berimbau is used in the sport of capoeira, a Brazilian art form that combines elements of martial arts, sports, and music.

   1. The following clip begins with a berimbau solo played by Mestre Ananias (considered an icon of capoeira), followed by the typical call and response within the ensemble. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNGqsdESeGI

   2. The traditional berimbau (the instrument featured yesterday) is also used in contemporary Brazilian music. This piece is built around the berimbau. It is most prominent in the beginning which will help you listen for it throughout the song. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yU0VEtuKARQ&feature=youtu.be

E. The Portuguese brought their pre-Lenten festival of Entrudo, which over time developed into the wildly popular Carnival.
1. Samba is the sound of carnival, and is primarily a mixture of Angolan semba, European polka, and African batuques. The samba originated in Brazil’s northeastern state of Bahia.

2. The underlying rhythm of samba is the batucada. The following video from Salvador, Bahia is a colorful example.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NePUW0xMhII&feature=youtu.be

II. This week, we’ll focus on artists who greatly influenced Brazilian music over the last 100 years.

A. Luiz Gonzaga (1912-1989) was a spokesman for the history and culture of the rural Northeast and is noted for starting a whole new genre called baião.

Although famous for his accordion playing, this clip reveals the showmanship and vocal technique that made him such a star. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zLm-oO-9DUA&feature=youtu.be

B. Antônio Carlos Jobim (1927 – 1994) from Rio de Janeiro was largely responsible for the Bossa Nova style which became hugely popular in the mid-1960’s.

Águas de Março (Waters of March) is thought to be one of the greatest songs ever written.

This 1974 recording is by far my favorite performance and includes a duet with Elis Regina (considered by many to be the most important Brazilian singer of all time). http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1tOV7y94DY&feature=youtu.be

C. João da Baiana (1887-1974) is one of the early sambistas (a person who plays and/or dances the samba) to emerge in the 1920’s and was largely responsible for introducing the pandeiro, now considered a national instrument and icon of samba.

The pandeiro is much like a tambourine, but played quite differently. We’ll explore this next week when we discuss instruments. Note the play between the soloist and the chorus. This is common in Brazilian music and reflects the African and Native influences. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UV2SlvfChvs&feature=youtu.be

D. Into the current Brazilian music scene: Marisa Monte comes from a diverse musical background. Like other MPB (musica popular brasileira) artists, her music is eclectic and defies categorization. Carlinhos Brown is an innovative and rhythmically rich songwriter. His compositions have been recorded by a diverse and impressive list of Brazilian artists. Together they perform one of Monte’s compositions.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1-qHjRp-o&feature=youtu.be
E. A contemporary of Jobim, João Gilberto (b 1931 - Bahia) brought a unique style of
guitar playing that mimicked a samba ensemble. Plucking the main elements of the
batacuda (samba) rhythm at a slower tempo in a syncopated manner, he created the bossa
nova rhythm.

Here is a recent performance of his very first single, “Chega de Suadade”, one of the first
bossa novas ever recorded! (Jobim & de Moraes, 1958)

He was also an innovator in the smooth flowing vocals floating over the rhythmic
accompaniment, now a regular Brazilian technique.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rEi9dscA0m8&feature=youtu.be

III. Let us turn our focus on those instruments unique to Brazil. You’ll find most of the
instruments unique to Brazil are percussion.

A. The pandeiro, although very similar to the tambourine, requires great skill to play.
One hand holds the instrument, while the other strikes the drum head, alternating between
fingertips, thumb, heel, and palm of the hand. The pandeiro can be prominently heard in
several different Brazilian music styles including samba, choro, and forro.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z401FV98IS4&feature=youtu.be

B. Although originally from Africa, the cuica (kweeca) truly found its place within
samba music. This drum produces a laughing sound, or squeak. A bamboo friction stick is
attached to the center of the head (inside the drum). The sound is produced by rubbing the
friction stick with a wet cloth. The pitch is affected by the amount of pressure applied to the
head. This video is a great example.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vhEujlYOTbw&feature=youtu.be

C. The zabumba is much like a bass drum and is worn by the player. One hand holds a
soft mallet while the other strikes the underside with a thin stick. The zabumba is a key
element in the forro genre as demonstrated in the video.

Do you hear the occasional slapping or snapping sound? That is the action on the underside.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7a-18VDQgsM&feature=youtu.be

IV. It’s our last week on Brazil; let’s look at some of the main music genres.

A. Folkloric Music - the contemporary music of Brazil from the 1920’s on is deeply
rooted in Brazil’s folk music traditions. The rich, varied, and multicultural folk traditions
include styles like Afoxé, Maracatu, and Capoeira music.

1. We viewed an example of the African-rooted Capoeira on April 6. (1,D,1)
The Music of Brazil

2. This video is an example of Afoxé. Afoxé is a secularized version of the rhythms and songs used in the Afro-Brazilian religion of Candomblé.  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXzKnf_nMljg&feature=youtu.be

B. Our next main genre is the Brazilian instrumental music called Choro.

Choro is often compared to Dixieland Jazz because of its instrumentation and use of improvisation. The first choros appeared in the 1890’s, predating American Jazz by about 10-15 years.

This video features the music of Pixinguinha (1897-1973), considered the greatest choro musician of all time.  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7x_B55zs8iM&feature=youtu.be

C. Our next main Brazilian music category is Samba.

1. There are several types of Samba (samba-canção, samba de roda, sambinha....) depending on the tempo, the lyrics, instrumentation, and the overall sound. Nonetheless, the unifying characteristic of all samba is the batucada rhythm.

In this video you can see how many of the instruments either play or work around this basic rhythm. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jWekRyVzRI&feature=youtu.be

2. Here is a performance from Mart'nália (Rio de Janeiro). A bit more relaxed then our previous selection...yet a samba, nonetheless.  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h3NS6CDoWno&feature=youtu.be

D. Our next main category of Brazilian music is Bossa Nova. Bossa Nova became very popular in the early to mid 1960’s. Although rooted in the samba rhythm, it is played at a slower tempo and often employs more complex harmonic structures often found in Jazz. Also, the piano and drum kit are more prominent in Bossa Nova.

This video features Chico Buarque’s retake of Roda Viva. Originally released in 1968, this composition is more typical of the later Bossa style.  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g1M7cgm6Yqk&feature=youtu.be

E. Our last Brazilian music category is MPB (musica popular brasileira). MPB includes elements from many of the previously highlighted genres (and more). The sound and style of these artists vary greatly and cannot be put into any one category.

This video features internationally acclaimed singer/songwriter Milton Nascimento. The heyday of MPB was from the 1960’s to the 1980’s, but still continues today. Jazz musicians are especially fond of Nascimento. 
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GnW54yIHsh4&feature=player_embedded
Now that your knowledge of Brazilian music has expanded, do the same for your audio library. Here are a few CD and mp3 recommendations.


B. Luiz Gonzaga – *Volta Pra Curtir* - [http://www.amazon.com/Volta-Pra-Curtir-Luiz-Gonzaga/dp/B00005L004/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1304342371&sr=1-1-fkmr0](http://www.amazon.com/Volta-Pra-Curtir-Luiz-Gonzaga/dp/B00005L004/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1304342371&sr=1-1-fkmr0)

C. Baden Powell – *Os Afro Sambas/Vontade* - [http://www.amazon.com/Afro-Sambas-Vontade-Baden-Powell/dp/B0013XZN5U/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1304342437&sr=1-1-fkmr0](http://www.amazon.com/Afro-Sambas-Vontade-Baden-Powell/dp/B0013XZN5U/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1304342437&sr=1-1-fkmr0)