ONE NOTE SAMBA

Verse: Could it be this One Note Samba is Jobim’s little joke?  
He called it the “One Note Samba”, but it’s got more than one note  
Coz now we’re up to Bb, and before it was an F…..  
...you think two notes are one note, you’re either Irish or tone deaf.

Chorus: What about the chorus – it’s got heaps of different/(bloody) notes.  
Had he been drinking? What was he thinking?  
A sneaky little rhythm change would make us all believe  
that he was playing some other song.

Verse: But we were not born yesterday, in fact we’re pretty smart.  
And we recognize this F note, which means we’re right back at the start  
And by logical extension, it all must be one tune  
Help me tally up the chorus, you know it’s coming back real soon.

Chorus: Here we go, that’s 3 more notes, and there’s another 6,  
so far that’s 9, but, I missed that last bit.  
Hope that you were counting coz I’ve clearly reached my limit,  
Wait a minute… no, here we go

Verse: Well that was 45 notes, but let’s give the guy a break.  
We’ll subtract repeats and octaves, that reduces it to 8.  
And take off F ‘n’ Bb, now it’s time to do the sums.  
But in anybody’s language, 2 + 6 don’t = 1

Chorus: There are probably millions of Brazilians who would say  
that I’m pedantic, and unromantic  
(To) criticize a national treasure coz he cannot measure  
all the stuff that goes in his songs

Verse: But maths is universal, and Portugese is not.  
And describing things precisely is no Greco-Roman plot.  
And misleading advertising’s punishable under law  
But let’s not get too excited,… is it just a metaphor ?  

Jobim/Cairns