

Michel Camilo – Mano A Mano (2011)

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01 – Yes 02 – The Sidewinder 03 – Then and Now 04 – Mano A Mano 05 – You and Me
06 – Rice and Beans [play](#) 07 – Naima 08 – No Left Turn 09 – Alfonsina y El Mar 10 –
Rumba Pa' Ti 11 – About You [play](#) Musicians: Michel Camilo
– piano Giovanni Hidalgo – congas Charles Flores – bass

A pianist with a brilliant technique and a composer that flavors his tunes with Afro-Caribbean rhythms and jazz harmonies Mr. Camilo's musical language is an expressive and exciting way of combining his musical heritage with a rich, intelligent use of harmonic textures, jazz roots and his superb piano technique. His music is mainstream jazz first and foremost, propelled by an infectious Latin tinge and a contemporary sense of swing that reflects his joyously effervescent personality.

Michel Camilo was born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, he studied for 13 years at the National Conservatory earning a degree of "Professorship in Music" and at the age of 16 became a member of the National Symphony Orchestra of his country. He moved to New York in 1979 where he continued his studies at Mannes and Juilliard School of Music. Since his 1985 Carnegie Hall debut he has become a prominent figure performing regularly at festivals throughout the United States, Europe, Japan, Asia, Middle East, South America and the Caribbean.

His eighteen recordings to date have been recognized with a Grammy award, an Emmy award, two Latin Grammy awards, two Grammy award nominations, several Casandra awards and the Soberano (Dominican Republic) and two Premios de la Música (Spain). He has recorded in Solo, Duo, Trio, Sextet, Big Band and with Symphony Orchestras, as well as film soundtracks. He moves with ease between the worlds of Jazz, Latin and Classical music.

Highlights include his two year appointment as Jazz Creative Director Chair of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, his participation at the 55th Anniversary Celebration of George Wein's Newport Jazz Festival, a five year tenure as Musical Director of the Heineken Jazz Festival (Dominican Republic), president of the jury at the Montreux Jazz Solo Piano competition, as well as member of the jury at the Jacksonville Great American Jazz Piano competition, featured in the award winning Latin Jazz documentary film Calle 54, JazzWeek's 2004 Artist of the Year, Artist in Residence at the 2007 Klavier Piano Festival Ruhr, voted among the Top 10 Jazz Pianists of the Year at the 69th Annual DownBeat Magazine Readers Poll, a three year Herb Alpert Visiting Professorship at Berklee College of Music, Meet the Composer and NYSCA composition grants, co-Artistic Director of the first Latin-Caribbean Music Festival at the Kennedy Center performing the world premiere of his Concerto for Piano & Orchestra No. 1 with the National Symphony Orchestra conducted by Leonard Slatkin (commissioned by the NSO), and the world premiere of his Rhapsody for Two Pianos and Orchestra (commissioned by the Philharmonia Orchestra) performed by Katia & Marielle Labèque at the Royal Festival Hall.

He has performed with Dizzy Gillespie, Paquito D'Rivera, George Benson, Tito Puente, Herbie Hancock, Tomatito, Mongo Santamaria, Joe Lovano, Arturo Sandoval, the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band, Cachao, Danish Radio Big Band, David Sánchez, Jon Faddis, Chucho Valdés, George Wein, Jaco Pastorius, Gloria Estefan, Dr. Billy Taylor, Celia Cruz, Tania Maria, Enrique Morente, Dave Valentin, Airtó & Flora Purim, Michel Petrucciani, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Stanley Turrentine, Giovanni Hidalgo, Toots Thielemans, Patato, Michael Brecker, Randy Brecker, Ketama, Eddie Palmieri, Roby Lakatos, Ana Belén, Danny Rivera, Marco Antonio Muniz, Hiromi, Alfredo Rodríguez, and Esperanza Spalding among others.

Guest engagements with prestigious symphony orchestras include the National (NSO), Detroit, Cleveland, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Atlanta, Gulbenkian, BBC, Nacional (Spain), Madrid, RTVE, Barcelona, Euskadi Orkestra, Navarra, Cadaques, Seville, Bilbao, Malaga, Gran Canaria, Tenerife, New Japan, Copenhagen Philharmonic, Aarhus, NorrlandsOperan, Magna Grecia, Nacional (Dominican Republic), Puerto Rico, Queens, Long Island, Andres Segovia Chamber Orchestra, and Indiana University Philharmonic, among others.

He has recorded his compositions with the BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by Leonard Slatkin (Decca/Universal), and Gershwin's Rhapsody In Blue and Concerto in F with the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra (Telarc) conducted by Ernest Martínez Izquierdo. In January 2009, Mr. Camilo performed at Carnegie Hall as a special guest of Hungarian gypsy violinist Roby Lakatos. On March 13 and 14, 2009, Mr. Camilo performed the world premiere of his Concerto for Piano & Orchestra No. 2- Tenerife, commissioned by the Tenerife Auditorium, as guest soloist with the Tenerife Symphony Orchestra conducted by L♦ Ji♦.

Mr. Camilo's CD/DVD box titled Caribe - Michel Camilo Big Band is released in Spain by Calle 54 Records and Sony Music/BMG. This live concert was filmed at the Altos de Chavon Amphitheater in the Dominican Republic and directed by Oscar award winner Spanish filmmaker Fernando Trueba. This album was also released in Japan celebrating the Michel Camilo Big Band performances in Tokyo and Osaka.

The year 2010 included several tours of Europe, the U.S., Japan and the Caribbean in Solo Piano, Trio, Big Band and as guest soloist with the Arhus Symphony Orchestra, the Orquesta de Camara Andres Segovia and a tour of the Basque region with the Euskadi Symphony Orchestra, as well as Duo projects with Cuban pianist Chucho Valdes and Flamenco guitarist Tomatito.

In March 2011, Mr. Camilo performed the premiere in America of his Concerto for Piano & Orchestra No. 2- Tenerife at the National Theatre of his native Dominican Republic with the Festival Symphony Orchestra conducted by Philippe Entremont. He also performed the Scandinavian premiere of the same work at Copenhagen's Royal Academy of Music with the Copenhagen Philharmonic conducted by Grant Llewellyn. In October 2011, Mr. Camilo will perform the French premiere of his Concerto for Piano & Orchestra No. 1 with the Orchestre de Lyon conducted by Leonard Slatkin.

In May, Universal Music Int'l released worldwide his latest album Michel Camilo - Mano a Mano celebrating his European festivals Summer and Fall tours. Mr. Camilo's honors include Honorary Doctorates from Berklee College of Music (Boston), Universidad Nacional Pedro Henriquez Ureia, UTESA University of Santiago, as well as an Honorary Professorship and Honorary Doctorate from Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; and the Crystal Apple from the Mayor of the City of New York. The Dominican Government awarded him its highest civilian honors: the Silver Great Cross of the Order of Duarte, Sanchez & Mella, Cultural Personality award, and Knight of the Heraldic Order of Christopher Columbus.

The Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, D.C. created the "Michel Camilo Piano Scholarship" which helps talented inner-city students attend college. Mr Camilo created the Michel Camilo Scholarship, which helps Dominican students study jazz at Berklee College of Music in Boston. <http://www.michelcamilo.com>

Michel Camilo to latynoamerykański pianista i kompozytor jazzowy. Pochodzi z Santo Domingo na Dominikanie. Wspólnie z hiszpańskim gitarzystą Tomatito, nagrali płytę Spain, za którą zdobyli nagrodę Grammy w kategorii Latin Jazz w 2000 roku. Camilo jest także autorem muzyki do kilku filmów hiszpańskojęzycznych, np. Los Peores Años de Nuestra Vida i do wielokrotnie nagradzanego Amo Tu Cama Rica.

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