Written by bluesever Thursday, 09 June 2016 13:21 -

Paquito D'Rivera - The Jazz Chamber Trio (2005)



01. Preludio Y Merengue 07:05 02. Difficult 02:58 03. Recorda A Papa 04:05 04. A Night In Tunisia 05:50 05. Alfonsina Y El Mar 07:05 06. Kalimba 02:59 07. Five After 05:12 08. Cristal 06:05 09. Improvisation (Saxophone Solo) 02:01 10. A Fuego Lento 03:43 11. Carinhoso 03:02 12. Niebla Y Cemento 07:12 Cello – Mark Summer Piano – Alon Yavnai Clarinet, Saxophone [Alto] – Paquito D'Rivera

This delightful project features altoist Paquito D'Rivera mostly playing clarinet in a trio with cellist Mark Summer and pianist Alon Yavnai. Although their set includes originals by all three musicians, the music overall is as strongly influenced by Cuban folk music and classical themes as by jazz. D'Rivera clearly enjoys mixing together the different idioms to create new and fresh music that is filled with the spirit and joy of his brand of jazz. The versatility of the three musicians is even more impressive than their inventive repertoire, making this a unique and highly recommended item in Paquito D'Rivera's extensive discography. –Scott Yanow, Rovi

Paquito D'Rivera's stated goal for his Jazz Chamber Trio is to "unify in one single concept the delicate intimacy of chamber music, the spontaneity of jazz, plus the rhythmic power of Latin-American music." What his album The Jazz Chamber Trio proves is that D'Rivera is just the man for that job. He's absolutely magisterial here, equally impressive dashing through his fleet, angular take on "A Night in Tunisia" or caressing the melody in "Cristal" with a sustained quiet tone so seductive you could kiss it.

This trio features pianist Alon Yavnai and cellist Mark Summer, and D'Rivera's arrangements

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take full advantage of the instrumental possibilities, as when "Alfonsina y el Mar" begins with rippling piano chords and an ardent cello solo before gorgeous, decadent swoons from all three players. Sometimes the pieces have clear divides between genres; "Recorda a Papa" begins with a graceful intertwined melodic statement by D'Rivera and Summer that needs just a little bump to find its dance rhythm. But mostly this is music that lingers in an in-between space, solos coming naturally from ensemble writing and rhythms evolving from melodies. It only sounds easy if D'Rivera is leading the way. --- Andrew Lindemann Malone, jazztimes.com

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