

“Press Quotes”



"Raised in Havana, Jesus "Chuchito" Valdes has inherited more than his father's famous name: on a recording made in Chicago last summer, he displays the hell-bent intensity and daredevil technique of the elder Valdes-qualities recognized worldwide as hallmarks of Cuban Jazz.

In terms of pure flamboyance, Chuchito Can just about match his dad: he can raise a mountain of rhythmic intensity with a driving montuno, create flutelike filigrees in his fluttering right hand figures, or stagger flashing cords at breakneck speed to build a kaleidoscopic improvisation.

But he seems just as happy to play out a lyrical danzon with unfeigned humility-to throttle back a notch, in other words, and let the music breathe.....the relative spaciousness in his style does set Chuchito apart from most of his countrymen."

Neil Tesser - "Author of the Playboy Guide to Jazz"

Article review for a concert at Columbia College:

In the Chicago Art & Culture guide. "The Reader"

"In a sense, Valdes and his band reinvigorated age old Cuban musical forms, the venerable cha-cha-cha and mambo standards revitalized by the muscular virtuosity of a mostly younger generation of players. This was jazz improvisation of the most sophisticated kind, with arcane chord changes and unexpected bursts of dissonance at almost every turn."

Howard Reich, - *Chicago Tribune*

"This is a burning Afro-Cuban jazz CD. The program gives us mostly originals by Chuchito and or/ Reese, (as well as) Coltrane's "Giant Steps" and "Tres Lindas Cubanas".

The music here is simply wonderful, very articulate, strong and clean."

Marshall Vente - Radio Host of "Jazz Tropical" - 90.9 FM

A review of recent album releases for the Jazz Institute of Chicago in their Jazzgram Publication.

Agency

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