

2010 POLL WINNERS INSIDE! Miles, Corea, Moran, Spalding & More!

JazzTimes

AMERICA'S JAZZ MAGAZINE

Danilo >> Pérez

**Jazz Across Cultures,
Traditions, Generations**

Chucho Valdés

> On his new album, his
legendary father & Irakere

Year-End Recap:

- > Top 50 Releases
- > Readers' Poll
- > Nate Chinen's Favorite Gigs
- > Best Audiophile Gear

The Either/Orchestra
An Unlikely
Institution,
25 Years Strong

Revolutionary Rhodes
New Pianos Reviewed!

Stefano Bollani
Before & After



BARRY HARRIS
Overdue Ovation

GUEST COLUMNIST
VIJAY IYER:
Too Many Graduates,
Not Enough Gigs

FEBRUARY 2011 • \$5.95



74470 01086 9
jazztimes.com

By Bill Milkowski

DOUG BEAVERS 9

Two Shades of Nude (Origin)



A former Mingus Big Band member and Eddie Palmieri sideman, trombonist-composer-arranger Doug Beavers assembled a fine New York crew for his second outing as a leader. There are several fine originals here: the exhilarating title track; "Lapse," a beautiful ballad feature for pianist Henry Hey; the brooding, suitelike "Brink"; and the dynamic "Scurry," featuring some heated exchanges between trumpeter Alex Sipiagin and tenor saxophonist Marc Mommaas. But the nonet also turns in thoughtful reinventions of Clare Fischer's "Pensativa," Chick Corea's "Gemini," Tony Williams' "Hand Jive" and McCoy Tyner's "Blues on the Corner." Exceptional work throughout.

BOSSA BRASIL & MAURÍCIO DE SOUZA GROUP

Here, There... (Pulsa)



This pleasant offering showcases both of Brazilian drummer Maurício De Souza's bands. The first half features his Bossa Brasil covering standards by fellow countrymen Hermeto Pascoal, Tom Jobim, Milton Nascimento, Edu Lobo and Baden Powell. The last half features his Maurício De Souza Group taking on familiar jazz standards. Souza's briskly swinging touch and interactive instincts fuel this date, which includes outstanding solo contributions from pianist Carl Viggiani (Powell's "Consolação"), flugelhornist Gregory Rivkin ("I Can't Get Started") and vibraphonist Jerry Weir (Cedar Walton's "Firm Roots"). Guitarist Mike Stern guests on Nascimento's lyrical "Vera Cruz" and burns on Joe Henderson's "Inner Urge."

CHAD EBY

Broken Shadows (Cellar Live)



Midwesterner Chad Eby brings an old-school aesthetic to this intrepid trio session with bassist Steve Haines and drummer Jason Marsalis. Or, as Branford Marsalis calls it in his liner notes, "modernity through authenticity." Branford guests on two tracks, going toe-to-toe with Eby on the spirited two-tenor numbers "Epitaph 1: Doo-Wee-Inn (For Dewey Redman)"

and the elder Marsalis' volatile freebopper "Sentinel." Younger brother Jason swings fervently throughout and supplies slick brushwork on Thad Jones' ebullient "Tip-Toe," as well as on plaintive rubato ballads written for Eby's two children, "Mira" and "Little You (For Spenser)." The trio turns in bold renditions of Charles Mingus' "Orange Was the Color of Her Dress, Then Blue Silk" and Ornette Coleman's "Broken Shadows," while also delivering potent tributes to Steve Lacy, Ray Charles and Jackie McLean. Eby closes with a daring unaccompanied rendition of Duke Ellington's "The Single Petal of a Rose," placing an exclamation point at the end of his auspicious debut.

DANNY FRANKEL

The Interplanetary Note/Beat Conference (Danny Frankel)



Drummer-ringleader Danny Frankel corralled organist Larry Goldings and guitar renegade Nels Cline for this wild session. The eerie, atmospheric "That Spider on the Wall" sounds like lost score from David Lynch's *Twin Peaks*, while "Nefarious" features Frankel jamming on bongos with Cline on electric sitar. Cline also plays wah-wah-inflected sitar on "Dark Bob," and adds distortion-laced sitar on the kitschy bossa-nova "Gypsy Cabster." "1958" is a tense, noirish soundscape that could have accompanied a *Twilight Zone* episode, and "Apple Cider Vinegar" is loungey exotica à la Les Baxter, with a sick Cline solo to boot. As the title implies, this organ trio is out of this world.

JARED GOLD

Out of Line (Posi-Tone)



B3 wiz Jared Gold leads a more traditional organ date with guitarist Dave Stryker, saxophonist Chris Cheek and drummer Mark Ferber. They kill on vintage tunes like Hank Mobley's hard-boppish "An Aperitif" and "Skylark," which is re-imagined as an uptempo romp. Gold's gospel-drenched "Preachin'" is a rocking-chair number reminiscent of "Old Folks," while his lush ballad "It Is Well" finds Cheek playing some expressive tenor. Stryker digs into the lazy groover "Down South" with bluesy abandon, and Cheek-unleashes on the urgent funk romp "The Stone Age." *Out of Line* also includes soulful covers of Thomas Bell's "La-La (Means I Love You)"

and Stevie Wonder's "You Haven't Done Nothin'."

DAVE HILL

New World (Dave Hill)



L.A. guitarist Dave Hill joins members of Yellowjackets—keyboardist Russell Ferrante, drummer Will Kennedy and bassist Jimmy Haslip—for several tunes on this pleasing contemporary-jazz offering. On funk-fusion numbers like "Kneedeep," "Soul Twister," "Prove It" and Ferrante's Steely Dan-ish "Rush Hour," Hill exudes the soulful nuance and blues-drenched chops of former Jackets guitarist Robben Ford. He also distinguishes himself as an expressive balladeer on "Sunrise," the lyrical "Oak Harbor" and the introspective, unaccompanied closer, "All the Times."

HEY RIM JEON

Mona Lisa Puzzle (Jazz Jeon)



From the turbulent opener, "Alpha & Omega," on which Dave Liebman blows fiery tenor over a kinetic pulse from bassist James Genus and drummer Terri Lyne Carrington, it's clear that pianist-composer Hey Rim Jeon is interested in making an intense, intelligent statement. Her spiky, dissonant comping on the entrancing 6/8 title track spurs Liebman to ecstatic heights on soprano, while her conversational trio piece "E-flat Blues" has a touch of Monk's playful, mercurial spirit. "Hypnosis," grounded by Richie Barshay's tabla and Genus' mesmerizing ostinato, features probing soprano from Liebman and wonderfully interactive drumming from Carrington. Other highlights include bracing reinventions of "Softly, As in a Morning Sunrise" and Herbie Hancock's "Dolphin Dance."

MATS/MORGAN BAND

The Music or the Money? (Cuneiform)



Cited as geniuses by no less than Frank Zappa, Swedish musicians Mats Öberg and Morgan Ågren have been collaborating since 1981, when drummer Ågren was 14 and Öberg, a blind-from-birth piano prodigy, was just 10. Inspired by everyone from Zappa, Return to Forever and the Mahavishnu Orchestra to Miles Davis, Buddy Rich and Louis Bellson, the two have been concocting their unique brand