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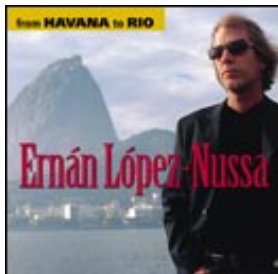
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ERNAN LOPEZ-NUSSA
From Havana to Rio

2000 Velas Records

Born in Havana, Ernán López-Nussa studied classical piano at the prestigious Instituto Superior de Artes (Cuban Institute of Arts). His performing career started when he joined the legendary ensemble AfroCuba, with whom he participated in several recordings (among them, two discs with Nueva Canción trovador Silvio Rodríguez). After leaving AfroCuba, he formed **Cuarto Espacio** with other former members of that ensemble. **Cuarto Espacio** was a tremendous electric jazz-fusion project which he led for approximately two years. After this experience, he embarked on a solo career. This new release surely reaffirms Ernán as one of the great contemporaneous Cuban pianists, along with Chucho Valdés, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Frank Emilio, Hilario Durán, José María Vittier and so many others.

Recorded in Rio de Janeiro, **From Havana to Rio** showcases the strong playing of a master on a cross-cultural journey, back and forth between two of the most important focuses of Afro-Caribbean artistic creation. Brazil and Cuba share a common legacy, product of a similar historical experience. They share as well, a common projection in this new century. Ernán López-Nussa travels at ease from one place to the other, speaking fluently in both musical languages. His own compositions are classy, elegant, and his re-interpretations of the well-chosen standards for this project are embedded with his trademark.

Tata Güines, Don Pancho Terry, Emilio del Monte, Jorge Sagua and Haydeé Milanés work at unison with Ernán in this first rate recording.

- Ernán López-Nussa** - piano
- Jorge Sagua** - bass
- Emilio del Monte** - timbales
- Tata Güines** - tumbadoras
- Don Pancho Terry** - chekeré
- Haydeé Milanés** - vocals
- Guinga** - guitar on track 1
- Carlos Malta** - flute on track 8
- Ovidio Brito and Marcelinho Moreira** - Brazilian percussion on tracks 1 and 6



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