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MARK TOWNS
Flamenco Jazz Latino

2000 Salongo Records
Produced by Mark Towns
Executive Producer: Jon Bradley

Reviewed by Danilo Navas

Mark Towns began teaching himself the guitar when he was 10. He also started writing songs at an early age. A talented and experienced multi-instrumentalist, his performing experience is vast and rich in diversity. During his musical career he's played "with various experimental jazz, rock, avant-garde, blues and world beat aggregations," as well as with some "salsa" bands.

After leading several ensembles of his own, and performing with well-known luminaries, Mark Towns reaches the new millenium defining his style as "Flamenco Jazz," being the nylon string Spanish guitar his instrument of choice. **Flamenco Jazz Latino** is a self-produced recording where Towns showcases his original compositions. His playing technique is impeccable. His compositions, a melting pot where all his influences converge to produce a joyous mix.

Dedicated to the memory of Tito Puente and Gil Valentín, **Flamenco Jazz Latino** surely marks a high point in Towns' professional career, portraying him as a mature, well-seasoned artist.

Some wonderful musicians lend their skills to enhance Mark Towns' production. As special guests, Kirk Whalum plays tenor sax on **Medley: The Way/La Via**, and Hubert Laws Plays flute on **Wind on the Mountain**.

Mark Towns - acoustic and electric Spanish guitars, bass guitar, Stratocaster, castanets, wind chimes, rain stick, orchestra bells

Douglas Guevara - tambora, congas, güiro, timbales, bongó, cowbell, miscellaneous percussion

Rainel Pino - piano

Erin Wright - acoustic bass on track 1

Jorge "Cro-Cro" Orta - congas, timbales, bongó, cowbell, güiro, shakers, chimes, miscellaneous percussion

Anibal Ambert - bass

Jorge Lebrón - bongó on track 6

Guest appearances by:

Kirk Whalum - tenor sax on track 2

Hubert Laws - flute on track 7



1. Salamanca
2. Medley: The Way/La Via (featuring Kirk Whalum) [◀ Listen ▶](#)
3. Sabrosa [◀ Listen ▶](#)
4. Corriente [◀ Listen ▶](#)
5. Merengue Gitano [◀ Listen ▶](#)
6. Chucho [◀ Listen ▶](#)
7. Wind on the Mountain (featuring Hubert Laws) [◀ Listen ▶](#)
8. After the Rain
9. Like the Wind
10. Touch
11. Selva Urbana
12. Wondering