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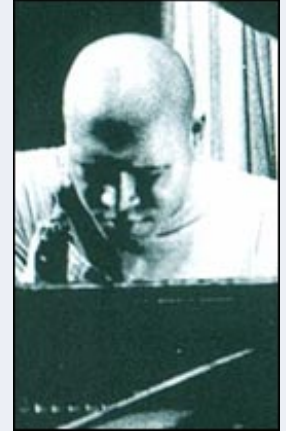
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Osmany Paredes & Menduvia



Recorded, Mixed and Mastered at Studios KAIHNA - Mexico D.F.
Reissued by Fonosound Inc. / Universal Music Latino - 2003

Produced by: Osmany Paredes
Executive Producer: Robert Gewinner



Posted on September 1, 2002 / Updated on September 14, 2003

The last time Latin Jazz Network checked in with pianist/composer Osmany Paredes he was living in Mexico City and celebrating the release of Osmany Paredes con Menduvia, ([see our May 2002 interview](#)). At the time, Osmany was seeking a record deal and a distributor for his independent project.

I recently had a conversation with Osmany and I am happy to report that he has signed on with Universal Music Latino (based in Miami, Florida). Universal has reissued Osmany Paredes con Menduvia in its entirety. The photography, graphics and liner-notes have been spruced up a bit. Also, the format (tracks) have been reorganized.

Osmany's recording, which has lost nothing in the transition, is now available in most major record stores. Perhaps the best news of all is the fact that Osmany has relocated to Boston (a hub for jazz and Latin jazz). We are in contact with Osmany and will keep you posted on his future plans, performances, recordings, etc.

On behalf of the Webmaster/Editor, Danilo Navas and myself, we wish Osmany Paredes much success.

Tomas Peña
Co-Editor
Latin Jazz Network
9/10/03

Osmany Paredes & Menduvia (Review)

Posted on September 1, 2002

Pianist Osmany Paredes ably represents a new breed of talented Latin American musicians whose music has a sophistication (and sabor) beyond its years. The band (Menduvia - which means tasty and/or flavorful) is comprised of graduates of the prestigious Escuela Nacional de Cuba. All the members of the band currently reside in Mexico City.

Osmany's debut includes a diverse repertoire of swing, bossa nova, rumba, cha cha, Afro-Cuban Jazz and even a killer bolero for good measure. Consider "Sonido Emiliano," Osmany's electrifying tribute to the legendary pianist Emiliano Salvador or "Cuadras Cha Cha Cha", where Osmany does some soulful vocal improvisations. Speaking of vocals, Francisco "Fellove" Valdés is on hand with "En Nosotros", a killer bolero. Moreover, Osmany turns the Miles Davis classic, "Seven Steps to Heaven", inside out and plays it in the style of a Cuban danzón (one of my personal favorites).

The principal band members are Osmany Paredes (Musical Director and piano), Bárbaro Pérez (bass), Hilario Bell (drums) and Reynaldo Pérez (flute). Featured guests include the inimitable Francisco "Fellove" Valdés (the first Cuban vocalist of his generation to improvise with his voice), Ana Cornejo (vocals), Coky García (timbales, bongos and percussion), Miguel Valdés (congas and percussion), Alfredo Pino (trumpet) and Fernando Acosta (soprano and tenor saxophone).

In a recent conversation with Osmany, he mentioned that some of his primary influences include Herbie Hancock, Chucho Valdés, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Bill Evans, Emiliano Salvador, John Coltrane and Dizzy Gillespie.

Osmany has performed and recorded with La Orquesta de Enrique Jorrín, Eugenia León, the legendary "Chocolate" Armenteros, Dave Valentin, Susana Harp and Orquesta 40 Grados. He is active in the international scene and continues to perform at a variety of festivals throughout Latin America.

Osmany has expressed a burning desire to visit the United States and perform in the Big Apple (New York) in the near future. His recording rapidly ascended to the list of top 25 Latin Jazz recordings on a variety of radio stations abroad and in the United States.

The music of Osmany Paredes and Menduvia is like a fresh Caribbean breeze from Cuba via Mexico way. A joyful and impressive debut by Osmany Paredes and his killer band - Menduvia!

Review by Tomas Peña

Tracks: (click on titles to listen)

1. **Cha-Cha Frames (Cuadras Cha Cha)** [Osmany Paredes]
2. **Seven Steps to Heaven** [Miles Davis]
3. **Friends (Amigos)** [Osmany Paredes]
4. **Atomic (Atómico)** [Osmany Paredes]
5. **In Us (En Nosotros)** [Tania Castellanos]
6. **Vlady** [Braulio Fernández]
7. **Havana 4 (Habana 4)** [Miguel Valdés]
8. **Latin Encounter (Encuentro Latino)** [Osmany Paredes]
9. **Song at First Sight (Canción a Primera Vista)** [Osmany Paredes]
10. **Emiliano Sound (Sonido Emiliano)** [Osmany Paredes]



Credits:

Osmany Paredes: musical direction, piano, keyboards and vocals
Braulio Fernández: electric bass
Coky García: drums, timbales, bongos and percussion
Miguel Valdés: congas and percussion
Alfredo Pino: trumpet and flugelhorn
Fernando Acosta: tenor, bongos and percussion
Reynaldo Pérez: flute on tracks 1, 6, 9, 10
Ricardo Benítez: flute on track 3
Ana Cornejo: vocals on track 3
Special Guest: Francisco "Fellove" Valdés: vocals on tracks 5 and 6

[See our interview with Osmany Paredes](#)

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