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## TONY PEREZ From enchantment and Timba... to Full Force Jazz

Year of issue: 2001  
Recorded in 1999  
Pimienta Records

Pianist Tony Pérez has emerged as one of Cuba's premier young lions. All of 28 years old, Pérez exhibits a distinctive style and poise that is well beyond his years.

Recorded in Mexico in 1999, "From Enchantment and Timba... to Full Force Jazz" is a powerful recording with dazzling rhythms, explosive percussion and a scorching brass section. Pérez puts his own unique spin on tunes by Tito Puente ("Picadillo"), Emiliano Salvador ("A Puerto Padre"), Arsenio Rodríguez ("Mi China") and Willie Colón ("Jazzy").

In addition, Pérez includes a number of original compositions that demonstrate his versatility and wish "to make music for the universe." For example, "Encanto" has a classical tinge; "A La Antigua" pays homage to Dixieland jazz; "Kay Nah" is an introspective (solo) piece; "Ninon" has a Brazilian tinge and "La Danza" brings to mind the sizzling sounds of "Irakere."

A graduate of Cuba's National School of the Arts, Pérez got his start in 1992 when he was invited by Issac Delgado to participate in his landmark recording, "Con Ganas." He also recorded "De Allá pa' Acá" with José Luis Cortés (leader of NG La Banda).

In 1997 Pérez toured Latin America with the legendary Fania All Stars. He has also performed with "Klimax," The Havana Ensemble, Paco Sery from the Zawinul Syndicate and Ruben Dantes from the Paco De Lucía Sextette.

1998 was a landmark year for Pérez. He recorded his first (solo) album, "Soneao" and had the distinction of being selected by Chucho Valdés to lead the renowned Irakere in their European and American tours.

Pérez also appears on "Songs from the Heart of Cuba," "Rhythm and Smoke" and the Grammy award winning, "El All-Stars - La Rumba Soy Yo."

His music has been described as a cross between "sabrosura," Cuban dance music and American jazz. Put simply, it is great music by any standard.

Review by Thomas Peña



Tracks:

1. Picadillo (Eddie Palmieri) [ [listen](#) ]
2. Encanto (Tony Pérez)
3. Analógico (Tony Pérez)
4. Jazzy (Willie Colón) [ [listen](#) ]
5. A la Antigua (Tony Pérez)
6. Ninon (Tony Pérez) [ [listen](#) ]
7. La Diferencia (Tony Pérez) [ [listen](#) ]
8. La Danza (Tony Pérez) [ [listen](#) ]
9. Mi China (Arsenio Rodríguez)
10. A Puerto Padre Me Voy (Emiliano Salvador) [ [listen](#) ]
11. Kay' Nah (Tony Pérez)

Recorded at Estudios Kay' Nah, Mexico City

Piano: Tony Pérez

Bass: Braulio Fernández

Drums & Timbales: Coky García

Percussion & Bongos: Miguel Valdés

Trompets: Mario Félix Hernández "El Indio" and Alexander Brown

Flute: Reynaldo Pérez "El Bola"

Tenor Sax: Alfred Thompson

Vocals: Emilio Suárez Martínez and Alberto Bermúdez

All musical arrangements by Tony Pérez