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No one asked my opinion, but...

THE HARD BOP QUINTET-THE ESSENCE OF JAZZ

By George W. Harris

You can argue this point until doomsday, but for my money, nothing captures the mixture of melody, form, spontaneity and improvisation like the jazz...

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HEADS UP!!! JOHN PIZZARELLI'S QUARTET COMES TO CATALINA'S JULY 18-21 PLAYING TUNES FROM THEIR HOT NEW RELEASE. CHECK TICKETS AT WWW.CATALINAJAZZCLUB.COM

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Al Di Meola: Morocco Fantasia: World Sinfonia Live with Special Guests

July 15, 2012 By George W. Harris



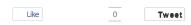
Guitarist Al Di Meola seems to finally have found a musical voice and home. He's made a name for himself as an AK-47 styled electric guitar gunslinger, a devotee of New Tango music, and an amalgam of sounds on his World Sinfonia records. The latter, which is featured here on a dvd that captures his band at a 2009 festival in Rabat, Morocco, seems to mix the best of all of Di Meola's musical incarnations.

Together with his team of Peo Alfonsi/g, Fausto Beccalossie/acc, Gumbo Ortiz/perc, Victor Miranda/b and Peter Kaszas/dr, Di Meola does mastery on his acoustic guitar on pieces like the Andalusian "Misterio." His fiery technical skills are well balance here by the acoustic and mediterranean musical enviornoment, as shown on the flamenco sketches on "Michelangeo's 7th Child" and the luscious "Turquoise." The mix of percussion and accordion make for a bohemian rhapsody, while the complex "Gumbiero" includes some nice hand work on the congas by Ortiz. Guests

Said Chraibi/oud, Abdellah Meri/violin an dTari Ben Ali/perc make for some delightful guests, as Chraibi's oud on the encore is a Saharan delight. Di Meola finally plugs in for an electrifyingly closer "Egyptian Danza" reminding everyone how he got famous in the first place. An absolute delight for guitar fans.

Inakustic DVD

www.in-akustic.de



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