

La Espada de la Noche

CD Reviews

Billboard, 2005 Dan Ouellette

"Excellence in jazz is all about the freedom to musically explore with an open mind and heart to ultimately find one's voice. On "La Espada de la Noche," his second Palmetto album and fourth overall, reeds player Ted Nash achieves that plateau of performance."

Downbeat, 2005 Paul de Barros

"Cultural fusions can sound forced, but La Espada De La Noche sounds as natural as neighbors chatting over the fence, though their "fences" may run between continents."

Village Voice, 2005 Francis Davis

"Every record collection should include at least one version of "Tico Tico," and have I got a goodie for you--ripping, dramatic, and only slightly ironic..."

Philadelphia Inquirer, 2005 Staff Writer

"Jazz was born in a cradle of many cultures, and the music's future is likely to be full of cultural excursions to new realms. Ted Nash pulls off such a fusion. He uses a primarily tango vibe to create a kind of film-noir jazz that's engaging and probably even better live than on disc."

L.A. Jazz Scene, 2005 Scott Yanow

"Each of the musicians is a virtuoso and the colorful arrangements utilize their instruments in unexpected ways... La Espada De La Noche is an especially memorable and unique set, one of the more inspired jazz recordings of 2005."

San Diego Union-Tribune, 2005 Staff Writer

"Like few others in contemporary music, Ted Nash thrives on combining disparate styles into an enticing whole that is never quite what it seems. Just how well he does it is demonstrated on his fourth album, the splendid "La Espada de la Noche."

Hartford Courant, 2005 Owen McNally

"Nash is a composer and one-man horn section on tenor and alto saxophones, clarinet, bass clarinet and alto flute. Mix all this with his talented bandmates, who play everything from accordion to tuba, and you've got a rich palette of tonal colors."

All Music Guide, 2005 Troy Collins

"This is a truly heartfelt musical fusion, albeit with a playfulness that dares you not to take it too seriously."

Raleigh New & Observer, 2005 Owen Cordle

"Jazz fans looking for a fresh ensemble sound, plus drama and humor, should check out "La Espada de la Noche" (Palmetto) by Ted Nash and Odeon."

Austin Chronicle, 2005 Jay Trachtenberg

"Nash and his chamber ensemble, Odeon, infuse their new project, La Espada de la Noche (Palmetto), with the romantic, dramatic, and passionate elements of tango, klezmer, and Crescent City second line for an unusually delightful sound."

Jazzitude, 2005 Staff Writer

"The results are often swinging as can be (listen to Nash's solo on the less-frequently heard Allegro section of "Concierto de Aranjuez"), but can also resonate deeply with the musical influences of other genres and nationalities."

Jazzmatazz, 2005 Alan Lankin

"The album is a fascinating set of music that maintains a fine balance between seriousness and humor, composition and improvisation, classical and cabaret, European and American jazz."

Santa Fe New Mexican, 2005 Paul Weideman

"Sometimes this sounds like Gypsy polka music... but the musicianship of all concerned makes this a fulfilling CD."

Record Online, 2005 Staff Writer

"Here's a guarantee: You won't turn this gorgeous album off in mid-song. That's because each tune is so compelling and so complete that you just have to listen."

Seattle Times, 2005 Paul de Barros

"The arrangements have a light touch, with lots of air between the parts, the accent being on the accordion's reedy highs. Soloist Nash struts on alto, tenor, clarinet and flute."

Turbula, 2005 Dan McClenaghan

"With his band Odeon on "La Espada de la Noche," he moves out of the mainstream...creating a music that flirts with humor and fun and joyous energy."

The Week, 2005 Staff Writer

"From his wonderfully unhinged take on Tico Tico to the seductive swagger of Tunisia, Nash makes it clear he is a "master genre-bender."

All About Jazz, 2005 Joel Roberts

"LCJO saxophonist Ted Nash takes a much different approach to the jazz tradition on his new album, with his decidedly untraditional quartet, Odeon."