

DAVID BUCHBINDER'S ODESSA/HAVANA

The explosive Jewish/Cuban musical evolution

"[Odessa/Havana is an] absolute cooker... that produces a seamless [blend] of Cuban and Jewish forms, that makes the mesh seem like the most natural thing in the world. Oh man, this is a good one!"

-L.A. Weekly

Award-winning trumpeter and composer David Buchbinder teams up with a crew of top Jazz and World musicians to present this exhilarating, unprecedented project of musical discovery: the Jewish-Cuban connection. David Buchbinder's Odessa/Havana presents "delicately textured and dazzlingly tuneful music, with powerful, swinging and lyrical playing", that is "passionate, dancing and completely irresistible." Arising out of the musical ferment of the most diverse city on the planet-Toronto-this truly original sound is a collaboration between the writing of Buchbinder and Grammy-nominated Cuban piano master Hilario Durán, and the band of killer musicians. Together, these forces take audiences on a journey of cross-cultural discovery, that consistently engages, challenges and delights.

Odessa/Havana's two CDs have been beautifully received, hailed as outstanding in both the World Music and Jazz realms. *Walk to the Sea* was recently honoured with a **JUNO Award** (Canadian Grammy) and the group's self-titled debut CD nabbed a Canadian Folk Music Award, while the two recordings (released internationally on the Tzadik label), have received well over 100 rave reviews. The band has toured across North America, playing to sold-out houses in every venue, and was at the core of David Buchbinder's multi-disciplinary creation *Andalusia to Toronto*, commissioned by one of Canada's greatest venues, Koerner Hall at the Royal Conservatory of Music. Now, on the heels of the release of their sophomore CD, they are ready to take on touring the world.



While the cities and cultures of Odessa and Havana might seem many miles apart, their musical associations are many-faceted, multi-layered and rich indeed; rooted in their common ancestry in medieval Andalusia and sharing Arabic, Roma (Gypsy), Sephardic and North African forbearers. The two musics already share haunting minor modalities, improvisatory flourishes, a strong rhythmic drive and deeply spiritual underpinnings. And both musical traditions have long since proven their suitability for creative adaptation, serving as a kind of "raw material" for musical development (Latin jazz, modern klezmer/"Radical Jewish Culture"). Buchbinder and Durán's compositions explore these commonalities as they break new ground, and the recent inclusion of their special arrangements of Sephardic songs have taken the music to a new level of richness. Without a doubt, Odessa/Havana's compelling and powerful performances will bring your audience a peak musical experience. Guaranteed!

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What Critics say about David Buchbinder's ODESSA /HAVANA



WINNER - 2014 WORLD MUSIC GROUP OF THE YEAR
- JUNO AWARDS

NOMINEE - 2013 WORLD MUSIC GROUP OF THE YEAR

WINNER - 2008 WORLD MUSIC GROUP OF THE YEAR
- CANADIAN FOLK MUSIC AWARDS

1 JAZZ RECORDING - ALLMUSIC.COM

1 JAZZ CD - TORONTO LIFE

TOP 5 JAZZ CDs - *GLOBE & MAIL*

TOP 10 JAZZ CDs - *SONIC TROUBADOUR*

★★★★★ "...[its] immense soul...ranks it among the year's best in jazz...Buchbinder's compositional prowess, abetted by Ochipinti's production, takes the CD to a level higher than just a feel-good exercise in cultural bonding."

-*Toronto Star*

★★★★☆ "...clear, powerful and nimble... this band is full of talented experimentalists who fully inhabit these ambitious charts."

-*Eye Weekly*

★★★★☆ "...an utterly brilliant and deeply moving collaboration that gives an entirely new meaning to the term 'world fusion'..."

-*allmusic.com*

★★★★★ "...a unique delight. [Buchbinder's composition] Cadiz is reminiscent of a Spanish suite by [Duke] Ellington."

-*Audiophile*

★★★★☆ "...a musical paradise that is dancing and completely irresistible. There is beautiful music here, along with ferocity and no small amount of fun. Failure to respond is virtually impossible."

-*Buffalo News*

TOP 20 CDs (All Styles) - *ALLMUSIC.COM*

TOP 20 JAZZ CDs - *MONTREAL GAZETTE*

"...the playing is impeccable. Buchbinder and Durán are aggressive and agile soloists...[The album] is a considerable compositional accomplishment and a solid sonic shot of festive fun..."

-*Down Beat*

"One of the most dynamic world music offerings over the last decade...a dazzling display of the unlimited potential of what world music has to offer."

-*Critical Jazz*

"Yow!...Utterly wild stuff that smashes expectations and genres as it delights in a most high octane way...you have to check this out if you have at least one adventurous bone clanging around in your ear canal."

-*Midwest Record*

"...sultry and diaphanous, Buchbinder's trumpet weaves gloriously sinuous lines... Odessa/Havana is a glorious delight."

- *The Irish Times*

"...an evocative combination of two celebratory traditions."

- *San Francisco Chronicle*

"...terrifically exciting, hard-swinging fireworks."

- *Wire Magazine*