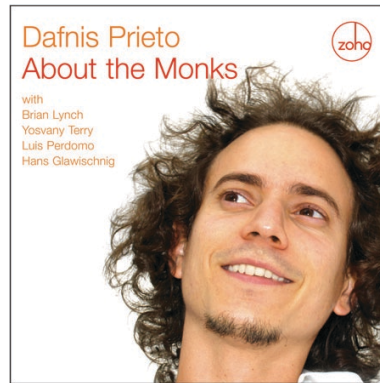


## Dafnis Prieto | About The Monks

(2005)



### Press Quotes

Since he arrived in New York in 1999, the Cuban drummer Dafnis Prieto has been translating centuries of hand-drum tradition into jazz percussion for the trap set. His playing often involves three fast rhythms at once, and his precision is mesmerizing. At first he was an overbooked sideman with bandleaders as far apart as the avant-gardist Henry Threadgill and the salsa patriarch Eddie Palmieri. But he has developed his own compositional ambitions, and at last here's the result. On "About the Monks" (Zoho), his own first record, he plays with his most frequent collaborators - the trumpeter Brian Lynch, the saxophonist Yosvany Terry, the pianist Luis Perdomo and the bassist Hans Glawischnig. It's some of the best of New York's new Latin-jazz movement, distinguished by complex, jaggedly modern writing, but also by a deep cultural literacy of Cuban folklore. – Ben Ratliff, **The New York Times**

“Dafnis Prieto is easily the most impressive young drummer to come on the jazz scene during the past decade. Possessing awesome virtuosity and astonishing versatility, Prieto has made important contributions since arriving from Cuba. On *About The Monks*, his debut as leader, he's joined by veteran trumpeter Brian Lynch and fellow recent arrivals saxophonist Yosvany Terry, pianist Luis Perdomo, and bassist Hans Glawischnig. The cohesive unit burns through a program of original music by the precocious percussionist on which he proves himself to be a composer with abilities equal to those he has long displayed as a player.”  
– Russ Musto, **All About Jazz**

“If you're curious about new directions in Latin jazz, then let percussionist Dafnis Prieto's *About the Monks* point the way... Prieto's drumming is kinetic yet never overpowering. He unselfishly allows his band the lion's share of the solos, yet his presence is the heartbeat of the recording.”  
– Mark F. Turner, **All About Jazz**

Cuba-born drummer Dafnis Prieto's debut, *About the Monks*, showcases a quintet that rests in a Latin groove with the requisite brass and trimmings... Highlights center around Prieto's tasteful insertion of solo voices... The best stuff comes when Prieto stretches out on his own which is often. His aggressive snare attacks, stop time rhythms and marching-band-like cadences give off a refreshing attitude.” – John Ephland, **Down Beat**

“This debut recording establishes Prieto as a capable composer and bandleader where all the tracks are originals. His percussive virtuosity and compositional style is further enhanced by a superb cast of sidemen who are highly respected leaders in their own right.” – **Latin Beat**

“Editor's Pick: Here's the record a lot of the improvising Latin world has been waiting for...Prieto is gifted. His drumming is light and forceful. He's exceptionally interactive, talking back to the soloists...All the writing's by Prieto and it's often stunning... Here's the real deal. “Highly Recommended.” – Peter Watrous, **Descarga.com**