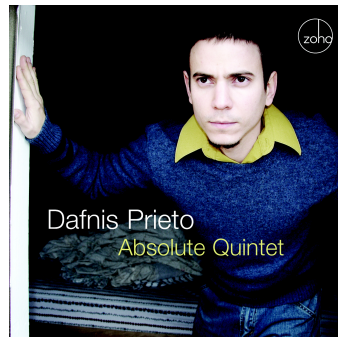


## Dafnis Prieto | Absolute Quintet

(2006)



### Press Quotes

"In a remarkably fertile period for Latin-infused jazz in New York, the drummer Dafnis Prieto stands out for his energy, his creativity and, perhaps most of all, his borderless musical worldview. Since moving here from his native Cuba at the close of the 1990's, Mr. Prieto, above, has powered a panoply of ensembles ranging from Zooid, a study in shifting timbres led by the multi-reedist and composer Henry Threadgill, to the Afro- Latin Jazz Orchestra, a repertory big band sponsored by Jazz at Lincoln Center. What those and many other groups have harnessed in Mr. Prieto is a forceful yet flexible sense of groove, derived from traditions of Afro- Caribbean hand percussion but also informed by polyrhythmic post-bop. Mr. Prieto mines the same territory as a composer, with impressive results: he has written sweeping arrangements for the Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra as well as compact missives for his own small groups.

– Nate Chinen, **The New York Times**

"Cuban drummer/percussionist Dafnis Prieto is a wunderkind who absorbs various musical channels and influences, not just Afro-Cuban music. His former employer, saxophonist/composer Henry Threadgill, appears on one track here. Marked by his polyrhythmic aplomb within difficult-to-navigate time signatures, the drummer's second outing for this record label looms as an extension of his previous one. With violinist Christian Howes, keyboardist Jason Lindner and others, the quintet sprinkles the Latin jazz genre with East Indian modal practices, turbulent groove-based movements and more. Prieto's compositions, which feature strings, horns and fast-moving thematic forays, are firmed up with strong melody lines and breakneck speed diversions. But it all makes near-perfect sense. Not only is Prieto carving out an impressive sideman persona, but he's also looming as a forward-thinking jazz acolyte who mingles enviable chops with a new approach to modern jazz."

–Glenn Astarita, **All About Jazz**

"... An all-round major musician and unquestionably one of the important leaders of the innovative New Latin Jazz movement currently coming out of New York." \*\*\*\* **(4 stars)**

- **Jazz Wise Magazine UK**

The result is definitely something out of the ordinary." – Mark F. Turner, **All About Jazz**