

## Alberto Pibiri- Liner Notes

As a musician who has been on the quest for depth and perfection, the music is a sacred thing for me. Even as a listener who is not a musician, music can be very emotional, motivating and rather spiritual. However for the players themselves that have taken on the art form there is an unwritten code by which we live. That is to do the music justice, and do your very best to serve the art form with new music, and new interpretations of old music. In the depute CD of Alberto Pibiri you have just that. Produced by one of the music's stronger forces in guitarist Dave Stryker, we have a very genuine, and honest take on just who pianist/composer Alberto Pibiri is. He has assembled a beautiful band with the addition of Marco Panascia on bass, and Brian Floody on drums. When I asked Dave how he came about to hook up with Alberto he responded by saying,

"I met Alberto at the Veneto Jazz Workshop in Bassano del Grappa Italy. My wife and I were knocked out by his enthusiasm and positive energy. He just makes you happy to be around him".

I myself met Alberto at The Orsara Jazz Camp/Festival which I was part of last summer with a fantastic array of musicians on the faculty. He was accompanying many of the young singers at the jazz camp. I was quite taken with Alberto as he is just a great person to have around. He gives off a positive, motivating energy for life, and the music. As a pianist, and musician in general Alberto has great command of the old styles in jazz, as well as the more progressive post bop style as heard on this CD. His multi style skills give him a great mix of the old school and the new school. It is a magical skill to have.

Right from the jump with "157th and Broadway" a Pibiri 16 bar minor blues feeling original I hear Sonny Clarke, Wynton Kelly, and McCoy Tyner mixed in his playing. "Brighter Days" a beautiful Stryker tune indeed speaks of happiness. The piano solo is just fabulous on this one. A beautiful set of changes I myself would love to play on. One of my favorites is Stryker's "Bird Flew". It is just that. A Birdlike rhythm changes head. You can add Thelonius

Monk, and Bobby Timmons into the mix in Alberto's playing. He has a beautiful way of grabbing a little of all those influences, and injecting into his own voice. The CD finishes with a nice up tempo post bop original of Stryker. It shows Alberto's great technical proficiency as the melody of the tune sounds like it demands great attention in the practice room. Alberto tears up the changes on this one.

To me it sounds like this recording was swinging hard from the first downbeat to the end. With five of Alberto's compositions, and 4 of Dave Strykers, this CD is well thought out, and has a great flow from start to finish. With his debut CD as a leader Alberto we have a music that stands tall, full of emotion, and credibility. With this project he has clearly established himself as a wonderful jazz composer, and pianist extraordinaire. Without a doubt a voice to be heard!!

Mark Sherman December 2011