

## Mp3 Paoli Mejias - Mi Tambor



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NOMINATED FOR BEST LATIN JAZZ ALBUM, LATIN GRAMMY 2005. Full of passion from start to finish, Puerto Rican percussionist Paoli Mejias demonstrates his depth and skill both as percussionist and band leader in his long-awaited first production MI TAMBOR 9 MP3 Songs LATIN: Latin Jazz, WORLD: World Fusion Details: LATIN GRAMMY NOMINEE 2005 - Announced August 23rd, 2005 Whether playing conga, timbal, bongo, cajon or a number of other percussive instruments, Paoli's ideas and feelings come to life and will bring a smile to your face and perhaps even a tear to your eyes. The way in which he can bring a group of 20 musicians together as one cohesive sound in a single song (#7 Lo que dice el tambor) speaks to his skill in directing. Yet his two duets (#5 #8) show that his melodic intuition coupled with his rhythmic strength and ear for silence can be equally as moving and inspiring. Mixed by Jon Fausty this CD features Jerry Medina, Miguel Zenn, David Sanchez, Conrad Herwig, Luis Perdomo, Antonio Sanchez, Hans Glawischnig, Naren Budhakar, Piro Rodriguez and over 20 other incredibly talented musicians. This production is a collection piece on all levels. Each song represents part of Paoli's rich knowledge of varied musical traditions including: Rumba, Plena, Bomba, Bat, Salsa, Straight-Ahead Jazz, and even features a duo with Naren Budhakar playing the East Indian tabla. Uniting and fusing influences from around the world, Paoli's first CD will impress and inspire all. BIOGRAPHY PAOLI'S ROOTS: Born in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico on March 7, 1970, Paoli was twelve years old when he played his first tumbao, back then listening to "Patato" Valdes, Batacumbele and Irakere among others. Paoli describes himself as "percusionista de formacin callejera" that is, the formation of his musical talent occurred in the streets watching and absorbing the styles of his mentors, and eventually playing along side them. The talented Jos Ramirez, one of the best Bat players in Puerto Rico, is among Paoli's teachers with whom he studied Afro-Cuban percussion. At the age of 35 Paoli has developed a unique style combining technique,

melodic rhythmic patterns and his physical strength. AS SIDEMAN: Paoli's professional career began in his teens, playing with Rafu Warner followed by freelancing with Jos Noguerras, Glenn Monroig and Charlie Seplveda. Later Paoli worked with Luis Enrique, Marc Anthony, La India, Seis del Solar, Tito Puente, Dave Samuels, Dave Valentn, Danilo Prez, David Snchez, Kip Hanrahan, Paquito D'Rivera, and Chick Corea among others. Paoli has toured around the world as sideman to Eddie Palmieri for more than eight years, recording and playing in the largest jazz festivals. Paoli's discography includes more than 20 commercial recordings, among them Alex Acua's "Acuarela de Tambores" which was nominated for a Grammy, and "Masterpiece" by Tito Puente Eddie Palmieri which received a Grammy award. AS BAND LEADER: The years of experience playing with the greatest jazz artists has enriched Paoli with a knowledge and appreciation for performing with passion and creative fire, both as a soloist and now as leader of his own band. This exposure to world music has given Paoli international recognition, and also became the foundation of his first solo project "Mi Tambor" (2004). As stated by Mark Holson of Jazziz Magazine (1/1/2005): "Puerto Rican percussion ace Paoli Mejias's self-produced album Mi Tambor is a dynamic fusion of progressive salsa, forward-thinking Latin jazz, and folkloric elements..." Riding on the success of his own CD, Paoli is currently focusing on its promotion and performing with his Latin Jazz Quintet in Puerto Rico and the US. In 2005 Paoli's Quintet wowed live audiences at Seattle's prestigious jazz club The Triple Door, the San Juan Heineken JazzFest, and FITA - Festival Internacional de Tradiciones AfroAmericanas in Venezuela. This year Paoli's also given clinics and master classes at the University of Washington, Panama's Foundation for Friends of Children With Cancer, and the Music Conservatory of Puerto Rico. Regarding the Heineken JazzFest Elmer Gonzalez wrote: "Paoli demonstrated his growth in Latin Jazz is rooted in his strength and brilliance, convincing those present that today he is one of the most complete percussionists of the genre, dominating minor percussion, timbales, bongo and instruments of other cultures such as the Udu drum from Nigeria..." Those who have had the opportunity to see his Quintet perform have been delighted to find the band is even more impressive in a live setting where one can feel the vibrant energy of the music, the connection between the musicians, and their interaction with the audience. Paoli's currently promoting his CD and performing with his band in Puerto Rico and the US. Please check his calendar for event listings. Paoli endorses Latin Percussion (congas percussion), Sabian (cymbals), and Remo (drum heads).

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