

Mp3 Maria Marquez - Nature's Princess



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Venezuelan singer Maria Marquez featuring Omar Sosa, John Santos and Gustavo Ovalles. 10 MP3 Songs WORLD: World Fusion, JAZZ: Jazz Vocals Details: Venezuelan chanteuse Maria Marquez shows that sensuality knows no boundaries in her forthcoming CD "Nature's Princess" (Princesa de la Naturaleza). This CD is Latin Jazz at its best with traditional and non-traditional instrumentation; fluid rhythms, and Marquez's soulful voice. Venezuelan chanteuse Maria Marquez takes her musical cues from the myriad native and international styles- bolero to jazz, Celia Cruz to Edith Piaf- of the Caribbean capital Caracas. Her professional career began during her late teens when she formed a duo with Venezuelan composer and Latin-rock-jazz fusionist Vytas Brenner, and the pair rose to rapid national acclaim before Maria left for the U.S. during her early 20's to study voice; composition; arranging and film scoring at Boston's Berklee College of Music. After graduation, Maria trekked cross-country to train with world-renowned vocal coach Judy Davis (Barbra Streisand, Janis Joplin, Grace Slick) in Oakland. Maria performed in a duo with jazz guitarist Joyce Cooling, the duo expanded with the participation of percussionist John Santos and keyboard player Jay Wagner, and the rest is as they say- history. Maria would become an important figure in the Latin Jazz scene in the Bay Area for the next two decades. In the mid 80's, Maria's recordings with Synclavier virtuoso Frank Harris, including the score to Venezuelan director Calogero Salvo's 1986 film "Three by three" garnered comparisons to the work of Brazilian songstress Astrud Gilberto. One of their arrangements for a traditional "Working song" called "Canto de Pilon" from Venezuela was recorded by bassist Charlie Haden for his Grammy Award winner CD "Dream Keeper". Maria returned to Caracas during the early 90's, and as musical programmer for jazz 95.5 FM, she assimilated the burgeoning international "world music" scene into the popular taste. In 1995, she recorded and co-produced her first solo album "De uno y otro lado" before returning to California and

partaking for the next 5 years in Latin Middle Eastern fusion group Wild Mango. She continued to develop her jazz repertoire with smaller ensembles, and in 2000 Maria Marquez completed work on her second solo record "Once Cuentos de Amor/ Eleven Love Stories" featuring 11 resurrected bolero torch song classics interpreted in Maria's inimitable jazz style. This CD was picked up for distribution and rightfully so by music magnate Chris Blackwell for his label Palm Pictures and it was released worldwide in 2001. Here is what has been said about "Once Cuentos de Amor": " The Caracas- born vocalist has brought together a group of affectingly sung ballads. The spare backing, which includes some sensitive marimba work, enhances her subtle yet impassioned interpretations. Even if your understanding of Spanish is virtually nil, like ours, you'll probably find this set utterly irresistible. A truly amazing curtain raiser." (Chris Morris for Billboard Magazine, January 13, 2001). Maria explains the inspiration behind the album: "The concept for this particular recording was born from the desire to get involved in a production of all-authentic Venezuelan music. " Why the bolero? Love songs in any language appeal to me, and these particular songs seemed to be begging to be reinterpreted. All of them had been very popular in their time, and still live in the memories of many Venezuelans." The latest effort by Maria "Nature's Princess" (Princesa de la Naturaleza) has taken her 2 years to complete. Another self - produced record, an ambitious project which includes 30 musicians in a variety of settings, from the intimate sounds of a string quartet to large ensembles supported by a whole bateria of percussion all performed by friend and mentor John Santos. This production has excelled people's expectations having already received wonderful reviews by the radio and press, both in the Bay Area as well as back home in Venezuela: "There is no doubt that Nature's Princess is Marquez's best artistic effort to date. It is a modern- day imprint of a golden age." "With an appropriate title "Nature's Princess", this full- bodied, robust album of Venezuelan traditional music intertwined with soft Jazz influence, occasionally reminiscent of Sting, is absolutely magical. This album plots a new path for the appreciation of Latin music within modern mediums. Absolutely gorgeous!." mariamarquez.com adventure-music.com

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