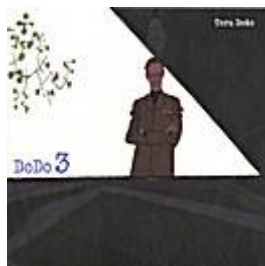


## Mp3 Toru Dodo - Dodo 3



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A New York-based Japanese pianist's 3rd piano trio album featuring his simple but complex, lyrical but sometimes funny compositions. 12 MP3 Songs JAZZ: Jazz Fusion, JAZZ: Bebop Details: This is Toru Dodo's 3rd piano trio album featuring Rodney Green on drum and Joseph Lepore on bass. It's released in Japan on February 2006. \*\*\*\*\* DODO 3 Review by Brian Lonergan All About Jazz July 2006 Toru Dodo's name may not be at the top of people's lists of riveting jazz pianists-yet- but with recordings like Dodo 3, such recognition could come soon enough. The album is full of catchy compositions showing an individual, unique and modern voice and his acrobatic trio- Joseph Lepore on bass and Rodney Green on drums- flies around complicated structures and rhythms with energy and precision. The standout composition "NYUCS(New York Underground Car Service)", for example, could be mistaken in a blindfold test for The Bad Plus at their more adventurous, given its rhythmic, harmonic and structural boldness. But the piece is not derivative in any way and bears Dodo's original signature throughout its unyielding gallop forward.(Its sample of a #1 subway line conductor announcing stops is an added pleasure for Manhatto-philes.) The album opener " R or B" is another compelling composition, with varying rhythms and tempos propelling it along, changing colors of minor and major 7 chords and two-handed, staccato passages. "Arabesque" shows a classical influence with its steadily flowing current of arpeggios, while on the solo piano " My Romance" Dodo demonstrates he can play a ballad the old-fashioned way, spare and tasteful with choice sprinkles of melody. Other highlights notable for combining rhythmic playfulness and catchy tunes are " Brush Pitch" and " Boneless Skinless", while Dodo 3's penultimate track, "For Mr. M (Sazae's Theme)" , is especially not-to- be- missed. Like a mini Keith Jarrett solo movement, it evolves in three-plus minutes from a gentle and wistful song to a rolling, blues-and gospel- soaked vamp. \*\*\*\*\* Swing

Journal (Japanese Jazz Magazine) March 2006 Jazz Music can still be fresh and interesting without using unconventionality. by Chihiro Nakayama Living in the USA for 11 years, Toru Dodo's 3rd album. He is now 33 years old --- I was surprised that he is still that young. His strong identity and maturity of music are beyond regular musicians. His chops on piano stand out from other Japanese pianists. After hearing him playing, pianists who recently made their debut sound amateur. His original compositions that sound like he mixed Jazz with 20th century modern music shows his strong personality. This time, relaxation and humor were added to his unique coolness that characterized his music. You can hear his own spacing and counter line which you may call DODO's signature on the track 1, 3 & 12. I believe that what is real jazz rhythm feel is you can play around the beat and groove on it. He has a high level of that ability, too. He can make 8 beat or 16 beat music a real Jazz music. His wide variety of piano sound is amazing if you compare his sharpness on track 2 with his softness on track 10. Track 4 7, his original compositions, remind you of music of Debussy, but he makes them a complete jazz music. They are deep music that makes trendy "jazzy version of classical pieces" sound superficial. It is enjoyable to listen to the speedy track 5 accompanied by a subway sound and track 8 on that he used baseball as a motif. I felt his humor and wit on his clever arrangement on track 11. (I remember his witty talk often made the audience laugh on his homecoming concert. ) This is the album that lets us know that Jazz music can still be fresh and interesting without using unconventionality.

\*\*\*\*\* Who is Toru Dodo? TORU DODO, born in Tokyo, started playing classical piano at age 4. After he entered the Meiji University in Tokyo, he discovered Jazz music. (His major was Economics, though.) He started gigging in Tokyo area. After he graduated, he went to Boston to study at the Berklee College of Music, '95 Summer. After he graduated as a summa cum laude, He moved to NY in 1998. Since then he has kept his musical career going forward, He often tours around USA, Japan, Canada, West Africa as a leader and as a sideman. Musicians who he worked with as a side man are Kenny Garret, Benny Golson, Curtis Fuller, Ruth Brown, Terumasa Hino just to name a few. He has released 3 of his leader album "DODO" ('02) "116 West 238 St." ('04) (featuring Reuben Rogers on bass and John Lamkin on drums) and "DODO 3" ('06) (featuring Joseph Lepore on bass and Rodney Green on drums) from Japanese label, Jazz City Spirits Muzak, all produced by a legendary guitarist, Yosiaki Masuo. More Info : [sns.ne.jp/dodo/](http://sns.ne.jp/dodo/) [myspace.com/torudodo](http://myspace.com/torudodo)

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