

What Critics Say About David Buchbinder's **Odessa/Havana**

#1 Jazz CD of 2007 - *Toronto Life*
#1 Jazz Recording of 2007 - *Allmusic.com*

Top 5 Jazz CDs of 2007 - *Globe & Mail*
Top 20 CDs (All Styles) 2007 - *Allmusic.com*
Top 20 Jazz CDs of 2007 - *Montreal Gazette*
Top 10 Jazz CDs of 2007 - *Sonic Troubadour*

“★ ★ ★ ★^{1/2} (of 5)...an utterly brilliant and deeply moving collaboration that gives an entirely new meaning to the term "world fusion"..."

- *Thom Jurek, allmusic.com*

“★ ★ ★ ★ (of 5)...clear, powerful and nimble...this band is full of talented experimentalists who fully inhabit these ambitious charts.”

- *Dave Morris, Eye Weekly*

“★ ★ ★ ★ (of 4)...[Odessa/Havana] is a genuine hybrid, strongly flavoured by Russian-Jewish modality and Afro-Cuban rhythms, but with those strands so strongly intertwined (and grounded in Spanish/Moorish music) as to seem inextricable...[the compositions are] delicately textured and dazzlingly tuneful, but it's the powerful, swinging and lyrical playing that ultimately sells the project.”

- *J.D Considine, Globe & Mail*

“★ ★ ★ ★ ...a unique delight. [Buchbinder's composition] *Cadiz* is reminiscent of a Spanish suite by [Duke] Ellington.”

- *Audiophile*

★ ★ ★^{1/2} (of 4) “It's as if shtetl streets, Havana nightclubs and Harlem after-hours joints were all versions of one another and destined to blend in some urban musical paradise that is passionate, dancing and completely irresistible. There is beautiful music here, along with ferocity and no small amount of fun. Failure to respond is virtually impossible.”

- *Buffalo News*

“★ ★ ★ (of 5)...the playing is impeccable. Buchbinder and Durán are aggressive and agile soloists...[The album] is a considerable compositional accomplishment and a solid sonic shot of festive fun...”

- *Michael Point, Downbeat*

“[Odessa/Havana is an] absolute cooker...that produces a seamless [blend] of Cuban and Jewish forms, that makes the mesh seem like the most natural thing in the world. Oh man, this is a good one!”

- *L.A. Weekly*

"... so beautifully articulated that it could be a textbook lesson on how to play with a clave rhythm and ends with a riotously joyous klezmer blowout. In the ground between those two cultural sign-posts lies the triumph of this recording - a blending of two once-oppressed musics that have now spread with the Diaspora of Eastern Europe and Cuba.... a killer band... The only drawback is that there's not enough of it - just under 50 minutes, which leaves one wanting much more."

- *James Hale, CODA*

"...a truly formidable array of fierce players who are not afraid to experiment...this is a band that is innovative [and] artistically fertile..."

- *eJazz News*

"...terrifically exciting, hard-swinging fireworks."

- *Wire Magazine*

"...sultry and diaphanous, Buchbinder's trumpet weaves gloriously sinuous lines... Odessa/Havana is a glorious delight."

- *The Irish Times*

"...rocks the house...A really tasty diversion that serves up something new each time you take it for a spin. Hot stuff."

- *Midwest Record*

"...exuberant, epic, stirringly rhythmic, sometimes flamboyant, sometimes beautiful and subtle, and always interesting."

- *Live Music Report*

"...a Cuban/klezmer blend that stirs up the best of both musical styles...[a] stimulating multi-cultural outing...a uniquely uplifting listening experience."

- *AllAboutJazz.com*

"...an evocative combination of two celebratory traditions."

- *San Francisco Chronicle*

"Bright and bold, Odessa/Havana is a unique and compelling blend of sounds that transcends genres and geography."

- *foxy digitalis*

"[Buchbinder and Duran] recalled the bravura power of Freddie Hubbard playing with Herbie Hancock."

- *Globe & Mail*

"...rhythmic, adventurous jazz magic."

- *San Mateo Daily News*

"...they brilliantly fuse elements of apparently disparate heritages, ultimately touching on common roots, from medieval Spain to the mambo craze of the 1950s."

- *Toronto Life*

"...a refreshing and fascinating take on jazz... twice as awesome as you would expect... Odessa/Havanna is a great record for anyone with a thirst for musical adventure."

- *Vue Weekly*

"This is truly original music, with a sound that connects and captures the listener in a new and fun way, all the while keeping its musical integrity."

- *Jazz Society of Oregon*