

manages to cleanly pick up all of the elements of each player's efforts to create a compelling whole. Many standout tracks, including Bedard's driving "Tasse Toe," and "Suivre La Parade," Davis' "Lingering," "Mirror Yames" "Trio Trois" and "Battle of the Forms" and "Schwonik's revolutionary take on Jerome Kern's "All the Things You Are."

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Thomas Lorenzo - "Spanish Breeze"

(Barcelona Music)

Guitarist Thomas Lorenzo's family escaped fascism by moving from Spain to Australia - where he grew up. He returned to Barcelona a few years ago and this is the forth release from him. With a title like *Spanish Breeze*, you might be forgiven for expecting some light-hearted acoustic guitar melodies, and while there are some of these - the album starts off with five straight electric guitar tracks that range from jazz fusion (opener "You're Cute"), to smooth contemporary ("Giggles and Whispers"), rock ("!-2-3, Let's



Go," "A Happy Dream") and even country blues ("Blue Secrets"). Assisting in this endeavor is pianist Dave Garfield, drummer/percussionist Walfredo Reyes, Jr., and bassist Alphonso Johnson - whose stints playing with Weather Report and the Crusaders are balanced by time spent playing the music of the Grateful Dead in both the *Jazz is Dead* and *The Other Ones Dead* tribute bands - making him the perfect choice to keep the low end in line on this project. But on the second 2/3rds of the album, Lorenzo suddenly shifts gears and brings out the nylon-string classical guitar on "Dulzura Con Rabia," "Contigo Aprendi," "Mi Alma," "Belleza De Agua Dulce," "Merry Go Round," and the luscious "Bailas?" -demonstrating a refined melodic sense and nice feathery touch on the instrument. The somewhat schizophrenic nature of the recording may or may not have been better served by spacing the electric pieces throughout, but Lorenzo isn't done yet, as a dreamy version of Hoagy Carmichael's "Georgia" ends this album showcasing another of Lorenzo's talents. .

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