



Princess Sita - Dominique Di Piazza Trio

Album Review

Dominique Di Piazza has appeared on recordings as a sideman with John McLaughlin, pianists Antonio Faraò and Gil Evans, and gypsy guitarist Bireli Lagrene, but *Princess Sita* marks his debut as a leader, joined by acoustic guitarist Nelson Veras and drummer Manhu Roche. The electric bassist utilizes a five-string instrument, showing off his virtuoso talent with an unaccompanied setting of Django Reinhardt's "Nuages," then sharing the spotlight with Veras in the rapid-fire "Nemo." Di Piazza changes the mood with his sauntering ballad "St. John," suggesting a mellow day at the beach. He unveils his intricate "Princess Sita" slowly, teasing the listener. Di Piazza's "Dinello" is an exciting workout with tricky runs throughout. His arrangement of the late tenor saxophonist Joe Henderson's "Recorda Me" is a subtle affair that is beautifully stated. One of the most impressive electric bassists on the jazz scene since Jaco Pastorius, Dominique Di Piazza deserves more opportunities to record as a leader. ~ Ken Dryden