

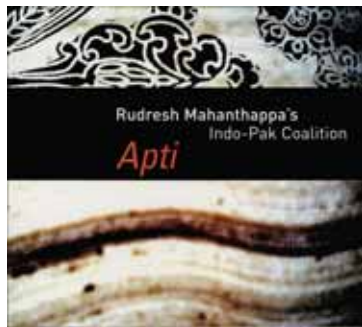
## Rudresh Mahanthappa's Indo-Pak Coalition

**Apti**  
INNOVA 709  
★★★★

For much of his early life, Indian-American saxophonist Rudresh Mahanthappa wasn't particularly interested in his cultural background.

When he finally was, back when he was studying at DePaul University in Chicago, he realized he didn't have the knowledge to create a meaningful merger of jazz and classical Indian traditions. A decade later Mahanthappa certainly has it figured out.

Hot on the heels of last year's brilliant *Kinsmen*, a deft and rigorous hybrid of forward-looking jazz improvisation and Carnatic music, comes *Apti*, the debut effort by his Indo-Pak Coalition, a muscular trio formed long before December's violence in Mumbai, with Pakistani-born guitarist Rez Abassi and tabla player Dan Weiss. Mahanthappa's disregard for cultural purity is on display with the personnel alone, with the Anglo musician playing an Indian instrument and the South Asians on Western axes.



The long rhythmic cycles of Mahanthappa's compositions and the darting, high-velocity unison phrases he plays with Abassi borrow heavily from Indian traditions, but there's nothing glib or pastiche-like in the formulations. The members of the trio freely and seamlessly

move between the two traditions. An arpeggio by Abassi can quietly double as the tamboura-like drone—which he can spin off into a fleet solo and then right back to a hovering swirl of notes—and the saxophonist's knotty phrasing can shift from the tightly coiled lines of Indian classical music into post-bop intervallic leaps in a heartbeat.

Mahanthappa, like his occasional collaborator trumpeter Amir ElSaffar, is heralding a new reality in jazz, where the music exists on equal footing with another hearty tradition, and something genuinely new results. —*Peter Margasak*

**Apti:** Looking Out, Looking In; Apti; Vandanaa Trayee; Adana; Palika Market; IIT; Baladhi; You Talk Too Much. (58:12)

**Personnel:** Rudresh Mahanthappa, alto saxophone; Rez Abassi, guitar; Dan Weiss, tabla.

» Ordering info: [innova.com](http://innova.com)

## John Santos Quintet

**Perspectiva Fragmentada**  
MACHETE 208  
★★★★



## Wayne Wallace Latin Jazz Quintet

**Infinity**  
PATOIS 007  
★★★★

Here we have two California-based quintets, both performing Latin jazz and each exploring their material with different approaches. Percussionist John Santos has recorded 10 albums of quasi-folkloric Latin designed to pay respects to the tradition established by such iconic musicians as Cachao, Ray Barretto and Patato. In that regard, Santos succeeds, as *Perspectiva Fragmentada* is a textbook representation of organic Latin performed by his exemplary quintet and aided by such hot-fingered ringers as bongo player Johnny Rodriguez and trumpeter Ray Vega. But while Santos' music is authentic, it sometimes lacks the visceral edge associated with banging on percussive instruments to a surging mambo beat.

Trombonist Wayne Wallace's *Infinity*, though also adhering to standard Latin rhythms and melodic motifs, expresses more of a West Coast commercial mood, complete with r&b-fired electric bass and drums inferring multiple styles. While *Infinity*'s best tracks, including the title track, "Songo Colorado," "Cha-Cha De Alegria" and "Straight Life/Mr. Clean" are rife with flowing improvisation, other tracks ("Love Walked In") veer too close to smooth jazz placidity for comfort. —*Ken Micallef*

**Perspectiva Fragmentada:** Perspectiva Fragmentada; Campana La Luisa; Ritmático; Chiquita; Consejo; Not In Our Name; Dos Equinas; Mi Corazon Borincano; Israel Y Aristides; No Te Hundes; Mexico City Blues; Visan. (67:20)

**Personnel:** John Santos, percussion; Orestes Vilató, timbales, bongos; John Calloway, flute; Saul Sierra, bass; Marco Diaz, piano; various others.

» Ordering info: [johnsantos.com](http://johnsantos.com)

**Infinity:** Infinity; Songo Colorado; As Cores Da Menina; Love Walked In; Memories Of You; TBA; Close Your Eyes; Cha-Cha De Alegria; Straight Life/Mr. Clean. (57:33)

**Personnel:** Wayne Wallace, trombone, tuba, melodica vocals; David Belove, bass; Michael Spiro, percussion, hand drums; Murray Low, piano; Paul van Wageningen, drums; Roger Glenn, flute, vibraphone; Jackie Ryan, (4, 7), Orlando Torriente (2), vocals; background vocals.

» Ordering info: [patoisrecords.com](http://patoisrecords.com)

# DISCOVER

## A NEW WORLD OF KEYBOARD HARMONY!

### VOICING AND VOICE LEADING FOR THE CONTEMPORARY JAZZ PIANIST

by MIKE LONGO

**PIANIST/COMPOSER MICHAEL LONGO'S REVOLUTIONARY TECHNIQUE LITERALLY TRANSFORMS YOU TO NEW HARMONIC HEIGHTS.** Curious how greats like Art Tatum, Oscar Peterson, Bill Evans, etc., arrive at such beautiful, lush & rich harmonic choices? This is THE book you've been waiting for.

**SECRET REVEALED:** Dynamic concept will revolutionize your thinking & understanding of harmonic creativity.

**DEVELOP YOUR INSTINCTS:** Find the usual presentation of facts tiring? Mike's highly crafted course of study develops your instincts to spontaneously react to any harmonic situation... inspiring a higher level of musical sensitivity and gratification

**NOT JUST FOR PIANISTS:** For ALL musicians wishing to develop the fundamentals of keyboard harmony to nourish improvisational creativity.

**"As soon as I heard of the book, I knew I had to have one, and it proved to be exactly what I was looking for and a lot more."** — James Moody.

**MONEY BACK GUARANTEE:** If dissatisfied, return this book within 90 days for a full refund.

### HOW TO ORDER

- 1) [www.jazzbeat.com](http://www.jazzbeat.com) (Click on "Woodshed")
- 2) 1-800-232-6796
- 3) Send check or M.O. for \$34.97 + \$3.50 S&H to:

**Consolidated Artists Publishing**  
290 Riverside Dr. Suite 11-D  
New York, NY 10025

\* Over seas shipment requires an additional \$15.00  
Canadian orders must include an additional \$6.00