Alejandro Sanz - No Es Lo Mismo (2003)



01 No es lo mismo

02 Hoy Ilueve, hoy duele

03 He sido tan feliz contigo

04 Try to save your song

05 Eso

06 Labana

07 Sandy a orilla do mundo

08 12 por 8

09 Al olvido invito yo

10 Regalame la silla donde te espere

11 Lo dire bajito

12 Si, he cantado mal

Alejandro Sanz (vocals, Flamenco guitar, tres) Lulo Perez (various instruments) Michael Landau (acoustic & electric guitar) Jose Antonio Rodriguez (Flamenco guitar) Paco De Lucia (Spanish guitar) Hamadi Bayard (tenor saxophone) Carlos Martin (trombone) Anthony Jackson (bass) Vinnie Colauita, Horacio Hernandez (drums) Luis Conte (percussion) Raul Midon, Javier Valverde, Lena Perez, Maria Antonia (background vocals)

From the album title (No Es lo Mismo means "it's not the same"), Alejandro Sanz is showing what this effort is all about. At first, something that was already known: he is not the same as any other Latin heartthrob like Chayanne, Emmanuel, or even Ricky Martin. He composes and produces his own material and, although not a great singer, he's a superb guitar player. Second, this album is not the same as any other Latin one. Sanz affords various topics (like social issues and commitment) not only related to love, dancing, and having a good time (probably the most common Latin stereotype). Third, this work (his first studio album since 2000's El Alma al Aire) is quite different from all the previous ones. For example in "Try to Save Your S'ong" he tries to rap, and gets some help from GQ in it. To his classic sound (Latin ballads plus flamenco), he adds hip-hop, bolero, and son flavors. The problem is that not all the things melt together smoothly. Things are more familiar in songs like "He Sido Tan Feliz

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Contigo" or "Eso," in which he seems to be more comfortable. Although it's not a masterpiece, it's a pretty good album by Latin pop standards. ---Iván Adaime, Rovi

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