

**AL** Di Meola's incredibly fruitful career has spanned a range of styles, emotions and continents. From the velocity and heat of his early solo efforts to challenge of the Di Meola/McLaughlin/De Lucia guitar trios, from the Brazilian explorations of *Cielo e Terra* Cielo e Terra and Soaring Through a Dream to the global romanticism of Al's acoustic group *World Sinfonias'* self-titled debut and *Heart of the Immigrants* Di Meola has, almost quietly, matured into a composer of deepening grace and thoughtful lyricism.

His status as a legendary guitarist is secure; for those who have ears to hear, *Orange and Blue* signals his growing prominence as a composer. "This album represents a more serious direction for me," says Di Meola. "I think *Orange and Blue* has a timeless quality." Featuring a bevy of internationally renowned players, including bassist Marc Johnson, drummers Peter Erskine, Manu Katche and Steve Gadd, Israeli singer Noa, premier Greek vocalist George Dalaras, Puerto Rican percussionist Gumbi Ortiz, Palestinian violinist Simon Shaheen, vocalist/guitarist Hernan Romero who co-produced, along with Di Meola and fellow Argentinean keyboardist Mario Parmisano, as well as Di Meola's guitar and percussion (and his debut on drums on two tracks), *Orange and Blue* is undeniably beautiful, processing the fiery passion on 1993's *Kiss My Axe* and the strong lyricism of his two acoustic recordings with *World Sinfonia*.

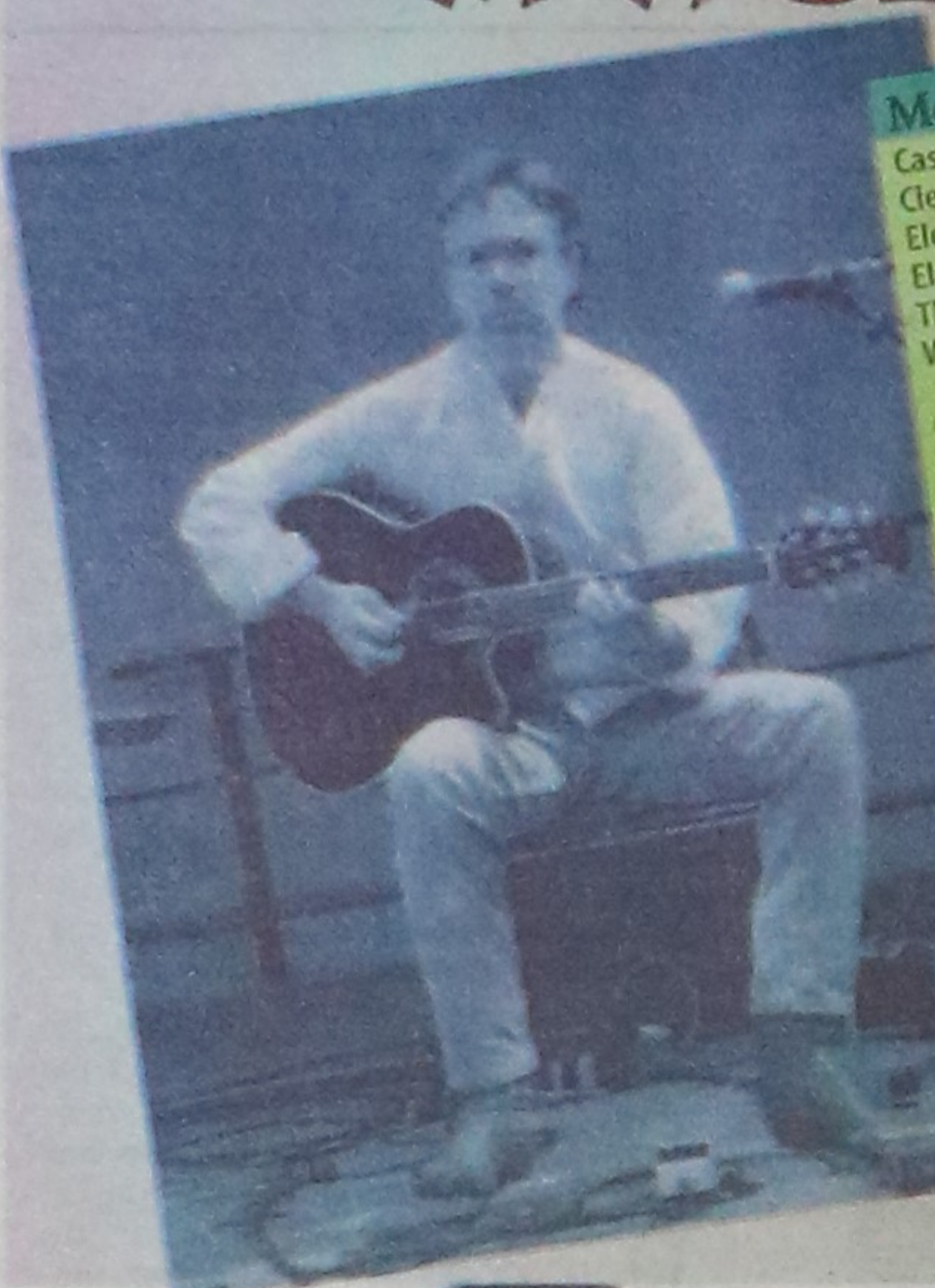
As *World Sinfonia* and *Heart of the Immigrant's* evocative melodies and rhythmic diversity were greatly influenced by the late Argentinean tango master Astor Piazzolla, *Orange and Blue* shows a broader cultural and musical scope. The friendship between Astor Piazzolla and Al Di Meola before the death of Piazzolla greatly touched the guitarist deepening his considerable ties to the music of South America. "Piazzolla had a profound effect on my development as a musician and as a person. We became close friends, and wrote back and forth quite a bit after he returned to Argentina. On his record, the sentiment and ethnic scope of this have a far wider-reaching dimension musically than my last two *World Sinfonia* projects. *Orange and Blue* is actually very much different."

Sharing a fondness for jazz, Argentinian and Brazilian cultures, co-producers Romero and



Meola won more than 20 different awards. *The Guitar Player Magazine* several times awarded him as the Best Jazz Guitarist and Best Acoustic Guitarist for the last three decades. His albums *Kiss My Axe*, *World Sinfonia*, *Friday Night in San Francisco*, *Splendido Hotel*, *Cosino* and *Elegant Gypsy* also won different awards for his musical skills.

## MAGIC OF MEOLA



### Meola Albums

- Cosino
- Cielo e Terra\*
- Electric Rendezvous
- Elegant Gypsy
- The Essence Of Al Di Meola
- World Sinfonia/Heart Of The Immigrants
- Orange and Blue\*
- Kiss My Axe\*
- Land Of The Midnight Sun
- The Best Of Al Di Meola: The Manhattan Years
- The Guitar Trio
- Passion, Grace & Fire
- Di Meola Plays Piazzolla
- Friday Night In San Francisco
- The Rite of Strings
- Scenario\*
- Tour de Force-"Live"
- The Al Di Meola Project: Tiramisu\*
- Splendido Hotel
- World Sinfonia
- Infinite Desires (98)\*
- Winter Nights (99)\*
- \*Go get 'em now!

Parmisano also figure in Di Meola's compositionally broad scope.

Di Meola's continually growth as a composer has it's earliest roots in the "neo-classical jazz rock" of *Elegant Gypsy* and *Cosino*, coming to full fruition and maturity on his recent releases. While challenging himself, Di Meola has consistently broken new ground in combining jazz with the diverse music of the world. "Over the years I've tried to keep the fire in the music, but also have enough melody and interesting harmonies to give it real meaning. I think the last few have achieve that."

While growing up in New Jersey, young Al Di Meola divided his time between guitar lessons and hanging out at the local salsa clubs. Influenced greatly by jazz guitarist Larry Coryell, Di Meola enrolled at Berkley College of Music in Boston, where his marathon practice sessions are still the stuff of legends (Al continues to be the technical master by which other guitarists are measured). "We had three guys in one space; one in one room, one in the bathroom; I got the closet. That helped me prepare for my first New York apartment." After a brief stint with keyboardist Barry Miles, Di Meola, at 19 was tapped by Chick Corea in 1974 for *Return to Forever*. His star quickly ascended. Sixteen recordings, countless awards and six million albums later Al Di Meola is still challenging himself and his music. *Orange and Blue* (orange symbolises warmth and blue- the deeper emotion) draws on the rhythms of Latin America, and melodies that literally encompasses the world.

*Orange and Blue's* 13 tracks run the gamut of Di Meola's musical experience. The vibrant "Paradiso" is a stunning opener ("This could be the felling of a beautiful place, South America or the south of France could be romance, feelings that are all too few in life"), with unorthodox phrasing, a soothing melody, multiple guitars and Di Meola's expressive drum work. Built around the warm improvisations of Noa, "Ta'allina" has a beautiful, earthy melody reminiscent of ancient Middle Eastern cultures. "Chilean Pipe Song" (with Di Meola on guitar and again on drums in "one of the most difficult pieces I've ever written") was originally fleshes out on a recent acoustic tour with Stanley Clarke and Jean-Luc Pontie in a group called *The Rite of Strings*. *Orange and Blue* soars, as if in flight, on Gumbi Ortiz's riveting percussion, Di Meola's liquid picking, Manu Katche's drum work and Paquito D'Riviera's brass section. "This works like a suite in a sense, with a strong melody in the beginning going through different movements, then another equally strong melody, going into a very exciting, odd bar climax." With its staccato guitar and piano work, *Cosmír* resembles a sprightly Middle Eastern folk song, but the takes an unusual turn with a swinging, hard bop section. "I've never been about tradition in a solid sense. I don't get off on that. Steve Gadd kicks ass on this one." "Theme of Mothership," which originally appeared on *Return to Forever's* *Hymn of the Seventh Galaxy*, is given an unusually organic, sultry treatments. "I had the hardest time in choosing whether to do this piece at all. It seemed I should put the whole Chick thing to bed but why, really? Astor and Chick are two guys that I love, and I always play their compositions. I've always wanted to play the piece, yet I wanted to do something with it, too."

In many ways, Al Di Meola has come to full circle. But, as with any artist, Di Meola sees his music as something fresh and new, meant to be heard by as many people as possible. "Composing is painful in that you have to avoid the obvious and somehow rediscover yourself. The easiest thing would be to use the same chords and progressions of the past. It's much more satisfying to dig down and come up with something new that has deep meaning for you. *Orange and Blue* to me, is just that."



## RS Centennial PC Vendors, Give

Only a few years back, a computer was a wondrous thing, and those who possessed one were the envy of their peers. But the scene has changed drastically today. With the advent of cheaper and more effective technology, computers have come within the reach of everyone. I remember when I was in school, only a few guys (and this dream machine in our class. Among them was my best buddy. He had a brand name computer, one of those early version CD-ROM drives. He came to school and told me that he had a movie in the computer. My jaw dropped.

Now CD writing is plain. Panta-Bhatta and troubleshooting is child's play. But, it has mushroomed with this IT boom to the rising demand of computers. And they are taking advantage of the gullible buyers, first-time doesn't know what's a computer and a monitor. They just want to buy a computer to do a lot of games, watch a ton of movies and to do work. The vendors give it to them, saying "The best stuff money can buy. Go and see how it works. Deeps-it hits the dance floor..." and cr-pellies.

And lo! They watch with wonder how the computer performs amazing feats before their eyes. But after a few days, problems arise. The vendor gets a call from a frenzied person "The tray of my CD-ROM drive keeps coming out and getting in and I cannot do anything". So, service personnel arrives, eyes the machine critically and says, "I'll have to take it to the HQ for servicing and away he goes, with the system unit (which most people tend to call CPU... no comments) in his armpits.

It arrives after a few days along with a bill, which causes massive monetary problems for the user. But, it is all right, as long as the system is working fine. Days pass by, and another problem arises. Again comes the service personnel. He "repairs" the spot and demands 500 bucks. This goes on and round. And when the warranty period expires, the charges keep getting higher and higher. It has become an inevitable circle. Probably that's why at least three people daily on an average, carrying a huge tower on their lap in a rickshaw. And the CD-ROM incident really happened to a friend of mine. After changing it three times, he's got a good one now.

You are maybe wondering why I am writing

## UNKNOWN CHEATS OF

All PC gamers out there will have heard or played the following games. The typical cheats for them are very easily gained too. But below are some little known exclusive cheat codes:

Yes, Yes, you have heard about the player edit cheats like footy, dohdohdoh or xplay: But have you heard of the following ones-- Use the "Player Edit" option to change a player name to one of the following entries:

- | RESULT                     | CHEAT CODE |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Classic 1982 match         | - zico     |
| Classic 1966, 1970 matches | - hurst    |
| Ball on fire               | - kenny    |
| Skeleton players           | - kyle     |
| Alien mode                 | - neila    |
| Crowd leaves stadium       | - city     |
- Celebrate: In FIFA98 after typing footy and enabling it, during the game, when the player your controlling has the ball, double clicking the "Z" button on the joystick (E on the keyboard) will make the player do a celebration ex. flip, 360.
- Crowd sounds: Score a goal and repeatedly press one of the following keys or buttons to hear the corresponding crowd sound:
- | SOUND          | BUTTON   |
|----------------|----------|
| Normal drums   | - Sprint |
| Loud drums     | - Shoot  |
| Horns Lob/Long | - kick   |
| Crowd cheers   | - Pass   |

Play as Atlanta Attack: To play as the Atlanta Attack, beat the Champions Cup with Brazil on Professional level.

Finding Ronaldo: Ronaldo can be found as G. Silva on Inter Milan and Brazil.

Winter Intro: Type win repeatedly while the game loads New Teams: When the opening sequence starts up, type in iwantmorefun within 5 secs. Then, when in team selector, you will find that all teams have the choice of new and old teams, ALL new kits, and \*\*\*\*\*the Spice Girls team! \*\*\*\*\*

Star Wars Episode I - The Phantom Menace While playing the game, press the Backspace key, type one of the following codes, and then press Enter.

- HAPPY - gives weapon 3 more power
- FROM ABOVE - changes camera view to above player, typing again places camera directly behind player
- PERF - wireframes on/offFPS-toggles frames per second on/off
- 60FPS - displays "60"; typing again displays "30"
- PERFECTION - purple-colored Force push power now kills; typing again returns purple-colored Force push power to normal
- SLOWMO - slow-motion mode; typing again returns to normal speed
- BEYOND CINEMA - letterbox movie mode; typing again returns to normal
- TURNTABLES - displays "The tables have turned"
- LIKE TO CHEAT - gives all weapons and adds 500 shots to Weapon 2, 500 to Weapon 3, 5 to Weapon 4, 1 to Weapon 5, and 10 to Weapon 6
- HEAL IT UP - sets health to 100 (even if already set higher)
- CURSHICK - runs credits