

# Press for Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica

3/18/2011

"...deliciously demented and entertaining in equal parts."



—Will Friedwald

[Permalink](#)

3/18/2011

"...Truly, the perfect soundtrack for your space age bachelor pad."

[Permalink](#)



## 2011: Starbucks licensing deal

The [Unforgettable Sounds of Esquivel](#) is playing in 10,000 Starbucks stores world-wide via licensing deal with playnetwork.com.



12/2010

"★★★★★...exquisite attention to details..."

—Clive Davis



## 1/14/2011: "Future: Perfect"

"...a marvelously flexible unit that can morph from a small, swinging combo to the full-blown 23-piece orchestra..."



—Jonathan Perry

[Permalink](#)

1/2011

## 2011 Rising Star Big Band

"...incredible arrangements, musicianship and artistic direction...I'm sure the only thing better than hearing the record would be seeing this group live." —Frank Alkyer



[Full review](#)

8/2011

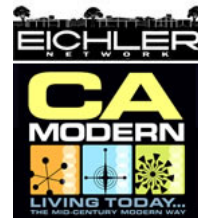
"...Brian O'Neill's group...may be one of the most inventive jazz groups running."

—BlogCritics Music (*I Hear Sparks*)

[CD review](#)

11/2011

"...*Third River Rangoon*...is a particularly tasty mélange of leader and composer Brian O'Neill's postmodern third stream music,' which blends classical, lounge, jazz, and world music into a mix that has a sound of its own... almost always cool, with moody bass flute and O'Neill's wonderful vibraphone work..." —Eichler Network (*CA Modern Magazine*)



[Feature](#)

May 2011

"... a perfect cocktail of mid-century 'space age bachelor pad' music deliciously accented with chamber, jazz, classical, and world music..." —Jonathan Perry



June 2011

"...borrowing themes from Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich, Mr. Ho has created his own rigorous classical-jazz hybrid. Are you listening, Keith Lockhart?..."



## June 2011: Express Milwaukee

"...The Orchestrotica, however, are crack musicians and bring a chamber jazz sensibility suggesting what the Modern Jazz Quartet might have sounded like had they lightened up and ordered a round of mai tais..."

June 2011

"...[*Third River Rangoon*] shows off O'Neill's serious jazz and chamber-music writing" —Bob Young

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**January 19, 2011: "Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica: Endless Bachelor Party"**

"...If John Zorn is an exotica Picasso, O'Neill is his Georges-Braque counterpart in cubism's transposition to music...as Braque may have been the finer cubist, O'Neill may be, in the long run, a stronger exoticist than Zorn."



—Gordon Marshall

[Full review](#)

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**12/2010: Minneapolis, MN**

"... something for that hard-to-shop-for eccentric on your Christmas shopping list..." —Martin Keller

StarTribune.com

**12/2010**

"... something marvelous...The world needs more cool sounds like this..." —Carl F. Gauze



[Full review](#)

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**11/2010**

Top CDs of 2010 —Bruce Lindsay

Jazz Favorite for 2010 —Mark Saleski



"...so beautifully interprets Esquivel's work... breathes fresh life into these marvelously odd arrangements, with a clear understanding of just what their creator intended them to do... an album that just wants to play and have fun." —Bruce Lindsay

[Full review](#)

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**July 2011: Roots World**

"...[The] Orchestrotica, whether in quartet or 23-piece big-band formation, leaves other retro ensembles in the fairy stardust..." —Cliff Furnal

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**June 2011: Lucid Culture**

"... Mr. Ho's new album Third River Rangoon, by his shapeshifting ensemble Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica may have been inspired by that subgenre, but it's considerably more magical. It leaves far more to the imagination, a lushly nocturnal collection whose most impressive feat of sorcery is getting a simple lineup of vibraphone, bass flute, bass and percussion to create the sweep of a hundred-piece orchestra. The production is genius..."

[Full review](#)

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**May 2011**

"...a serenely intoxicating blend of third stream chamber sounds..." —Dan McClenaghan

[Full review](#)



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**Spring 2011**

"2 absolute must-haves for any exotica fan, these first CDs in Mr. Ho's new series, "Exotica For Modern living", make a welcome addition to the pantheon of modern exotica classics" —Tiki Magazine



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**3/2011**

"...Whether [the] Orchestrotica's eclectic, eccentric, and subtly good-natured music will find a larger audience shouldn't be hard to say: It already has." —David St.-Lascaux



[Full exotica quartet concert review](#)