



CHARLIE MINGUS

TIJUANA MOODS

Released for the first time...The album Charlie Mingus feels is his best work, in which he and his men re-create an exciting stay in Mexico's wild and controversial border town.



Inspired by a trip to Tijuana, Tijuana Moods was recorded in 1957 but was sat on by RCA until its release in 1962. Bassist/composer Charles Mingus at the time said that this was his greatest recording, and it certainly ranks near the top. The original version, which was usually edited together from a few different takes, consisted of just five performances. It has often been said that Mingus forced and pressured his sidemen to play above their potential, and that is certainly true of this project. Altoist Shafi Hadi (who doubles on tenor) is in blazing form on "Ysabel's Table Dance," while trumpeter Clarence Shaw (who was praised by Mingus for his short lyrical solo on "Flamingo") sounds quite haunting on "Los Mariachis." Trombonist Jimmy Knepper and drummer

Dannie Richmond made other great recordings, but they are in particularly superior form throughout this session, as is the obscure pianist Bill Triglia. Completing the band is Ysabel Morel on vocals and Frankie Dunlop on castanets. While "Dizzy's Moods" is based on "Woody'N You," and "Flamingo" is given a fresh treatment, the other three songs are quite original, with "Tijuana Gift Shop" having a catchy, dissonant riff that sticks in one's mind. The passionate playing, exciting ensembles, and high-quality compositions make this a real gem, and it represents one of Charles Mingus' finest hours.



Tijuana Moods - Charlie Mingus

Charlie Mingus Tijuana MoodS

- 1 Dizzy Moods 5:45
- 2 Ysabel's Table Dance 10:20
- 3 Tijuana Gift Shop 3:43
- 4 Los Mariachis (The Street Musicians) 10:14
- 5 Flamingo 5:26

Recorded in RCA Victor's Studio A, New York City July 18 and August 6, 1957
Producer - Bob Rolontz Engineer - Bob Simpson

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