

report on Charanga Danzon

April 11th, 2008

This is the first time I have heard the new group Charanga Danzon and I loved it. They play wonderful Cuban music from the late 19th century onward. The group was very musical and spirited with an obvious affection for the music. Irene Mitri led the group with her violin and played with exquisite taste and flawless musicality. I so enjoyed listening to the music that it never occurred to me to dance (kind of unusual for me). This is the stuff we don't hear played—danzon chas for example. I hope we will support this group whenever and wherever they play. I believe they are playing for all the right reasons and deserve an appreciative audience. Viva Charanga Danzon.

John Avinger (John's Music, Seattle)