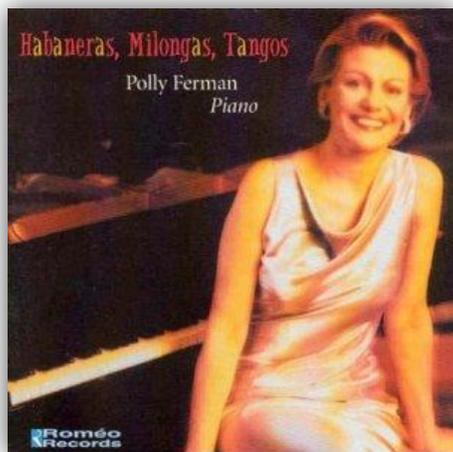


Habaneras, Milongas, Tangos:

November 4, 2001



This is delightful! The pianist is superb in her interpretation of the pieces. The music takes you away to another world.

By a Customer [Online Review](#)

February 23, 2008

MARVELOUS MUSIC

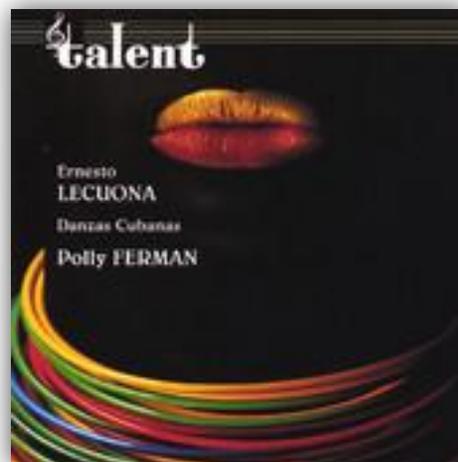
Marvelous music played with a light, deft touch that left me wanting to hear more, especially Charbier, Albeniz, Gottschalk. Surprised to hear tangos by both Satie and Stravinsky. By Matd [Online Review](#)

Lecuona: Danzas Afro-cubanas; Cuban Dances

July 14, 2000

EXTRAORDINARY VERSION OF HEART WARMING MUSIC

This is a lovely recording of highly spirited musicality. It brings memories of quieter days past in a south American music salon. The performance by Ms. Ferman brings forward an inspiring palette of delicate sounds. I strongly recommend this CD. By Nocolacci [Online Review](#)



September 18, 2000

WONDERFUL CD

As a member of the Cuban-American community I am proud of the wonderful music created by Lecuona and so many other composers. This CD is an excellent sample of what Cuban music has to offer. Mrs. Ferman's execution is vibrant and very much alive. By a Customer [Online Review](#)

July 18, 2001

IN THE HEAT OF THE CUBAN NIGHT

I knew from the opening "No hablas Mas!" of the DANZAS CUBANAS that Ferman would be completely immersed, would live and breathe the sultry syncopations of Cuban-born Ernesto Lecuona, would bring a soft, yet passionate, almost sexy new life to these languid works of some sixty-five years ago. As I continued to listen to the "Por que te vas" (Track 4), my intuition was confirmed. How dreamy and

ageless these pieces became under Ferman's caressing fingers. So many pianists merely whack away at Lecuona, pounding him to pulp or, in an effort to show off their pyrotechnique, miss the point entirely.

How tiresome; how grueling, and how unfair to Lecuona and the subtleties endowed in his music. Yes, Ferman takes her time with Lecuona, but I see this as no detriment; instead, she allows us visionary insight. Rhythm and lyricism, hidden lines of melody, submerged inner voicing become readily obvious, deliciously piquant and nostalgic. She knows EXACTLY what she's doing, and she brings a new validation, a new legitimacy to Lecuona's compositions.

Listen to, for example, the "Danza de las Nanigos" or "Danza Lucumi" from the DANZAS AFRO-CUBANAS. Listen to how every note sings out so affectionately, so lovingly. The variation of tone and color comes from the palette of a consummate pianist.

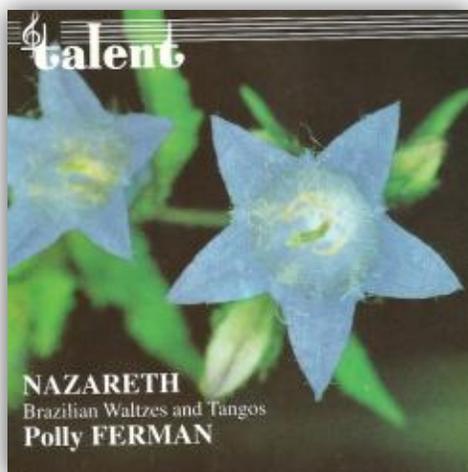
ANDALUCIA (Suite Espanola), from "Cordoba" to "Malaguena," is enchanting, romantic, fiery (listen to the "Gitanerias"), and can easily stand beside the Albeniz "Iberia," whose length, itself, may be self-defeating in the wrong hands. With ANDALUCIA, Lecuona really shows his mettle (even though the Suite is a fine integration of works not originally intended as such). And, yes, even "Malaguena," that ill-famed, over-played warhorse, under Ferman's fingers becomes bonafide and fresh.

"Siboney," of course, is a reduction to piano solo of the Lecuona song, and its tuneful longing is peerless. [This was Desi Arnez's favorite Lecuona piece, by the way; don't know how Lucy felt about it, though.]

So infrequently do we come across a pianist whose "connection" to a composer is so absolute, whose revelations are so vital and truthful. Polly Ferman falls squarely into this category. I have no doubt whatsoever of the authenticity of Ferman's approach; it "feels" right from beginning to end. It's too bad, though, since the CD allows sufficient time, that Ms. Ferman did not include Lecuona's suite of the ten NINETEENTH CENTURY CUBAN DANCES, as this would have made the present recording even THAT much more indispensable. However, even as it is, it's perfect. **By Melvyn M. Sobel** [Online Review](#)

Nazareth: Brazilian Waltzes & Tangos

August 2, 1999



RELAXATION AND EXHILARATION IN A VARIETY OF LOVELY PIECES

Piano recordings of E. Nazareth are hard to come by. Finally, after around two years of wait and a disappointment with M. Bratke, along comes this CD like a wonderful bouquet of the most colorful flowers. It is Joplinesque, Chopinesque. It is classical but light. It is merry, sublime, gay -in its proper sense- and humorous. About the only regret I have is the fact that pianists, who interpret Ernesto Nazareth compete with almost the same selections, I'm sure he composed many more. I grabbed Ms. Ferman's CD because it has the most. Wonderful recording, wonderful music! **GO GET IT!!**

By a Customer [Online Review](#)