

ALL ABOUT JAZZ, August 29, 2018, by [C. Michael Bailey](#)



Estrella Acosta

*Mujeres De Luna: Songs by Cuban Women Composers*

EStar

2018

Cuban singer [Estrella Acosta](#) digs deep into the rich soil of Cubano music, specifically that composed by women of the island. *Mujeres de Luna* (*Women of the Moon*) is a beautifully conceived and executed collection of 11 selections, all composed by Cuban women whose careers encompassed all of the 20th Century and what has been consumed of the 21st. What this music is not (for the broadest of listeners) is a female *Buena Vista Club*. While both musical styles are fundamentally organic, the music on *Mujeres de Luna* has smooth, rounded edges and an almost tactile suppleness. Included here are compositions by Maria Teresa Vera, Yaima Orozco, Maria Cervantes, and Marta Valdes. Acosta proves an exceptional interpreter of this music with her quartet supported by strings and a host of percussive delights. This music, as evidenced by Elda Carrillo's "La Suerte," is hook-filled. Worry not if you can't understand the lyrics. The language is music and it speaks to everyone. That is how to best approach a wonderful recording one might otherwise not address.