

Avi Wisnia

www.aviwisnia.com

"Philly native Avi Wisnia plays his own compositions reminiscent of a Brazilian Bossa Nova. Add in his soothing vocals and his poetic lyrics and you've got something you've never heard before."

-- WXPN Helen Leicht's Philly Local Pick of the Day

"Think acoustic Americana with Brazilian bossa nova. Drink a caipirinha, and enjoy the sounds that originated in warmer climates."

-- The L Magazine

"The crux of Avi Wisnia's sound is familiar melodies and samples of classic lyrics and melodies, and yet his sound is somehow completely refreshing. Combining bossa nova with soul and jazz and adding startlingly clever lyrical turns, Wisnia creates his award-winning (CMJ's Zig Zag Live competition, for one) sound. If Wisnia's sampling of lush, complex songs are any indication of what's to come, listeners will be waiting eagerly for more."

-- Alyssa Rashbaum, music critic for SPIN, VIBE, and Rebel Spirit Music

"Gloriously summery jazz-soul fusion, awash with shiny pianos and smooth vocals – a little like an acoustic Maroon 5, but with more Bossa Nova, more attitude, and more talent in his little finger."

-- Chris Merriman, Subba Cultcha

"Fans say it is Avi Wisnia's live performance that really captures his musical virtuosity, his humor and his energy."

-- INsite Austin

"The songs all have a fits-like-a-glove feeling to them. The grooves create a feeling that the band members are really listening to each other and the tracks have a sense of a live performance without sounding too spontaneous. Clever songs, interesting vocals, hooky melodies!"

-- Darryl Gregory (Indie-Music)

"One of New York City's A-List musicians"

-- Scott Stiffler, The Villager

"Like a cross between Dr. John, Professor Longhair, Ben Folds, Joni Mitchell, and early Billy Joel. But his approach is refracted through the prism of Brazilian bossa nova, occasional acoustic guitar folk forays, and '70s singer/songwriter fare—"I Wish That I Could Stop Writing Songs About You" and "The Back of Your Hand" are especially Mitchell-esque, and "Goodnight" sounds like Art Garfunkel doing jazz—then sings with a smoothly smoky voice that recalls Elvis Costello and Joe Pernice both in sound and delivery. Others such as "Sunday Afternoon" have that mellow, rainy-day bossa nova feel with words in the most wistful of English. A nice change of pace."

-- Jack Rabid, The Big Takeover

"I dig on Avi's honey-voiced jazz. "Rabbit Hole," the first song that popped up on Avi's page, instantly struck me a G. Love & Special Sauce (hold the sauce, please) meets a Jonathan Richman that you can take home to your parents (you know, less bug-eye stare, more witty conversation), with a later-day Elvis Costello delivery. The winking jazz hinted at with that first track comes into full blossom with "Something New" and "Sunday Afternoon," which drift along in a pleasant haze. I'm digging it. For those in the NYC area, check out his upcoming show dates after the jump. But first, acquire an appreciation for expensive cigars and fine single malts; that might be your best way of preparing for Avi's music."

-- Synthesis Artist of the Day