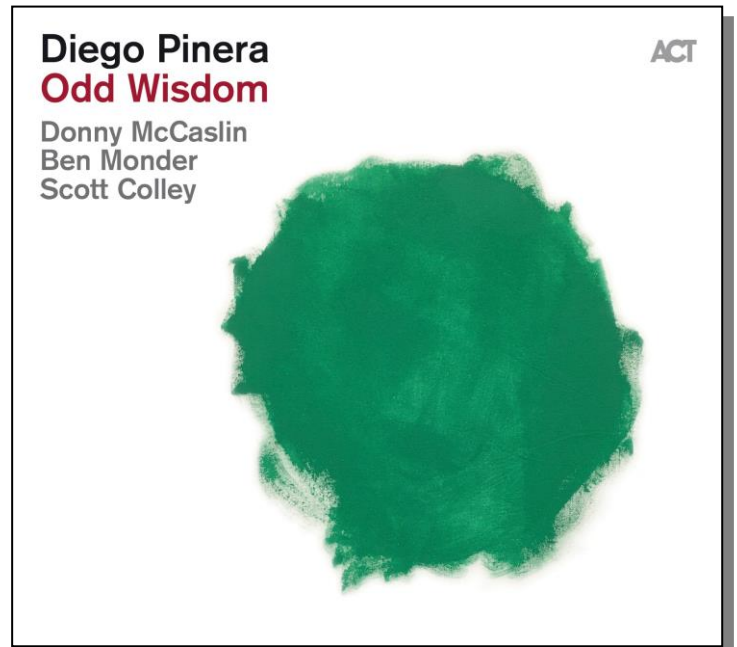


# ACT

## Diego Pinera

Odd Wisdom  
ACT 9920-2

Release date: 29. January 2021



**Diego Pinera is a unique figure who is genuinely taking music in new directions** by juxtaposing the polyrhythmic freedom of jazz with other metric systems. As he says, "I studied music in the places where it came from." He started playing drums as a four-year old in Montevideo. His student years were spent in Havana, Boston (Berklee) and Leipzig.

**Based in Berlin since 2003, he has continued to widen his musical horizons**, immersing himself in the 'odd' meters of the title through extensive work with Berlin-based musicians from Greece and Bulgaria.

**'Wisdom' here refers not just to Pinera's accretion of wide knowledge and consummate skill**, but also to mystery and alchemy: the track "Conversations With Myself" is a hushed, concentrated masterpiece. His ear for fresh colours and timbres is astonishing.

**His ACT debut "Despertando" was described as a "treat for the ear,"** and "Odd Wisdom" is a kaleidoscope of sonic inventiveness. "Mi Cosmos", for example, has the rasping sound of a snare over the drum-head. "Robotic Night" features a drum synth pad, played live in the studio.

**"Odd Wisdom" is a significant and personal album.** "It brings together all of the sounds and rhythms that I have been working on for the past decade." Pinera gathered a dream team from the New York top flight together for just one day at the Trading 8s studio in New Jersey: Donny McCaslin, Ben Monder and Scott Colley have already made their mark in countless other contexts, and they are on spellbinding form here.

**And yet "Odd Wisdom" also has a wonderful 'lightness' about it** (it is one of Pinera's favourite words). In these truly capable hands, complex music has a magical fluidity, freedom and flow. Pinera has acquired his wisdom by being watchful. As his evocative lyric for "Space" expresses it: "Al mirar arriba, más allá, en el sol." (I understood by looking up, beyond, into the sun.)

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- 01 Clave Tune 8:39
- 02 Domingo 6:14
- 03 Conversation With Myself 5:09
- 04 Robotic Night 4:12
- 05 Mi Cosmos 5:03
- 06 Space 7:18
- 07 Away 4:50
- 08 De Madrugada 5:04
- 09 Easter in Puglia 3:18
- 10 Blue Monk 7:16

Music composed by Diego Pinera, except Blue Monk composed by Thelonious Monk, arranged by Diego Pinera

Recorded and rough mix by Chris Sulit at Trading 8s Recording Studio, New Jersey (NYC), February 07, 2020  
Final mix and mastering by Klaus Scheuermann

Produced by Diego Pinera

Diego Pinera / drums  
Donny McCaslin / saxophone  
Ben Monder / guitar  
Scott Colley / bass

Cover art by Jerry Zeniuk, used with the kind permission of the artist

Photo by Gregor Hohenberg

Diego Pinera on ACT:  
Despertando, 2018, with Tino Derado, Omar Rodriguez Calvo, Daniel Manrique-Smith and Julian Wasserfuhr, ACT 9854-2

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THE ACT COMPANY

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Auenstraße 47, 80469 München, Germany  
Phone +49 89 72 94 92 0, Fax +49 89 72 94 92 11  
e-mail: [info@actmusic.com](mailto:info@actmusic.com)  
Visit our website at <http://www.actmusic.com>