

## Pulse of the Twin Cities

round the dial: CD reviews

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by Tom Hallett

deSol

*Self-Titled*

(Curb Records, 2005)



<http://www.desolmusic.com/>

7-piece Latin rock-n-rhythm princes deSol combine the fiery guitar crunch of vintage Santana with the hot beats and chunky bass-lines of Santa Esmeralda and the studio savvy of, say, Ry Cooder, on their debut album for Curb Records. Though their recorded work may lack the gritty, street-wise attack of Los Lonely Boys and other (far too few, if you ask me) Latin-influenced outfits of late, this record proves without a shadow of a doubt that they have the chops, the vibes, and the soul to deliver their message live. Lead vocalist Albie Monterrosa grew up in Queens, NY, but spent his childhood immersed in the music, culture and traditions of his El Salvadorian parents. Equally inspired in his teen years by Lennon, Marley and the Stones, he finally found his niche after discovering a Puerto Rican girl playing Spanish rhythms on congas. There, he says, he discovered his inherent "Latin Swing," which shines through inimitably on this release, from the world community-conscious "Blanco Y Negro" to the universally-conscious "Karma" to the sensual, id-conscious "White Dove." All in all (despite the rather slick production job), an excellent collection of Latin-influenced rocka rolla that I know for a fact would produce ounce after ounce of sweat from dance freaks to rock fans to drum nuts alike. Check 'em out at [deSolMusic.com](http://www.desolmusic.com/).