



Nick DeRiso

3 BRAVE SOULS (R&B): An album of soul jazz that brings together three alumni from the Miles Davis bands? **We are so there.** And keyboardist John Beasley (from Davis' late-1980s touring band); bassist Daryl Jones (with Miles for 1984's Decoy and '85's You're Under Arrest; and drummer Ndugu Chancler (who played with Davis in the early 1970s) don't disappoint, creating a **tangy, ass-wiggling funk** on their self-titled debut for BFM Jazz. It's tempting to focus on the great, **greasy lines by Beasley**, whose 2011 record Positootly! was nominated for a Grammy, but Jones and Chancler are just as important to this **album's potent pulse**: Jones takes a vocal turn on the Sly Stone-influenced "Stay," while Chancler — maybe best known for his later turn on Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean" — adds a spoken-word contribution to the sizzling "Nail It Down." Throughout, they create a groove so deep you could fall right in.