

LABOR RECORDS RELEASES SONOGRAMS

Mysticism, mathematics, musical watercolors and virtuosity from Eastern Europe and Germany

A *Sonogram* is a graphic representation of a sound from the physical world that cannot be represented in conventional musical notation. Labor Records' new release of music from Central and Eastern Europe takes the traditional media of recorder consort, string quartet and solo piano and, with the aid of non-traditional musical notation, evokes a post-modern musical world of introspection, numerology and mysticism.

A remarkable group of Eastern Europe composers is led by the Greek/French composer Yannis Xenakis whose legendary *Evryali*, one of his earliest works to be derived from mathematical processes and long considered nearly unplayable, is realized here in a dynamic virtuoso performance by the Bulgarian pianist Angela Tosheva. Two early works for winds by the Estonian composer Arvo Pärt, among his earliest music in the *tintinnabuli* technique that made him famous, are realized here for recorder consort; they conjure up a mystical Eastern world that is at once very ancient and very modern. Music by the German composer, Walter Steffens (the only Western European composer in the group) includes his interpretations of four watercolors by Paul Klee interpreted in performance by recorder virtuoso Benedikta Bonitz playing multiple instruments. Works by Bulgarian and Polish composers Gheorgi Arnaoudov, Georgi Minchev and Pawel Szymanski round out this unusual and inspiring program.



Highlights

- Eastern Europeans led by Yannis Xenakis whose legendary *Evryali*, long deemed nearly unplayable, is realized here in a dynamic virtuoso performance by the Bulgarian pianist Angela Tosheva.
- Two early works for winds by the Estonian composer Arvo Pärt (among his first music in the *tintinnabuli* technique that made him famous) for recorder consort.
- Four watercolors by Paul Klee interpreted in music by the renowned German composer, Walter Steffens, long known for his interpretations of visual artists, and performed by recorder virtuoso Benedikta Bonitz playing multiple instruments.

Release Date: February 26, 2013

TRACK LISTING

- 1 Arnaoudov / *Thyepolia for tenor recorder and Khandjari*
- 2 Szymanski / *Two Studies for piano*
- 3 Steffens / *Ecstasy for string quartet*
- 4 Pärt / *Arbos for 7 recorders and 3 triangles ad lib.*
- 5 Xenakis / *Evryali for piano*
- 6-9 Steffens / *Four Watercolors after Paul Klee for solo sopranino, alto and tenor recorders*
- 10-14 Minchev / *Sonograms for piano*
- 15 Pärt / *Pari Intervallo for four recorders*

1,2,4,6-9,15 – the original first recordings, first release
3, 10-14 – first CD release

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