



06/09-(6)

Title:

For Children

Works by G. Kurtág,
S. Gubaidulina, H. Lachenmann,
S. Schleiermacher

Musician:

Steffen Schleiermacher, piano

1 CD

Order Number:

MDG 613 1520-2

UPC-Code:



Child's Play

All those interested in offering children and young people interesting "piano fare" off the beaten path will find what there are looking for in Steffen Schleiermacher. This contemporary music specialist has recorded various twentieth-century "children's pieces" of picturesque and bold (Sofia Gubaidulina), humorous (Helmut Lachenmann), and abstract (György Kurtág) character. The pianist also supplies four miniatures of his own composition.

Sprinting Miniatures

The sixty-three tracks and seventy-one minutes of playing time are a challenge to calculating capacity of every CD player. Only a very few of the compositions on this CD last more than a minute. This is music for quick ears – get ready, start, and go! Helmut Lachenmann is a master of such witty miniatures. He succeeds in being succinct and witty at one and the same time – as his version of "Hänschen Klein" and his "Besoffener Chinese" prove.

Ludic Ventures

György Kurtág was planning a piano course when he composed his microludes, and thirty-six of these tiny pieces are heard on this CD. They are not suitable for piano pupils because Kurtág in principle did not write piano music but music making use of the piano. Sofia Gubaidulina created *Musical Toys*. She employed pictures in music: a bear plucks a double bass while accompanying a female jazz vocalist; sleighs go down a hill while ringing with their little bells.

Toy Shop

Steffen Schleiermacher has met with worldwide recognition as a pianist and composer ever since his complete recording of the piano works of John Cage. This recording now and again recalls John Cage's *Toy Piano*, even though here a veritable Steinway grand piano is used. And, as in Cage, most of the pieces do not involve children's pieces but strokes of genius inspired by childhood and skillfully and sometimes ironically presented by Steffen Schleiermacher.

John Cage

Complete Piano Music Vol. 1-10



Philip Glass

Dance No. 2 + 4 (1979), Trilogy Sonata (2000)
Steffen Schleiermacher,
electric organ and piano
MDG 613 1428-2



Philip Glass

Early Piano Music
Steffen Schleiermacher, electric organ
MDG 613 1027-2

