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SCENE



11/11-(5)

Wolfgang Rihm (* 1952)
Violin and Piano
Phantom und Eskapade
Nachstudie
Antlitz

Andreas Seidel, violin
Steffen Schleiermacher, piano

1 CD

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Production Line

Hardly any other contemporary German composer is as productive and multifaceted as Wolfgang Rihm. His work catalogue almost extends to the dimensions of those of Bach and Mozart. Andreas Seidel and Steffen Schleiermacher are no less industrious. The two Halle natives have now recorded three works by Rihm representing his complete oeuvre for violin and piano from 1992 to 1994.

Musical Transmigrations

Rihm composed the piece fantasies "Phantom und Eskapade" as a commissioned work for Anne-Sophie Mutter. Shortly before he had composed a violin concerto for her – likewise in response to a commission from Paul Sacher. Chamber music as a byproduct of an orchestral work? Not atypical of Rihm. He loves to recycle his own ideas and to rearrange them like puzzles to form new wholes.

Intermedial Relations

"Antlitz" is another piece for violin and piano. Rihm calls it a "drawing," as "a space transferred to a plane: fragile and translucent with tender strokes, at times as if redrawn, casting shadows." The rendering by Andreas Seidel and Steffen Schleiermacher enables the listener to experience the fascination of this drawing as if in three-dimensional form. Rihm composed the work following the death of his friend, the painter and a sculptor Kurt Kocherscheidt.

Steady Stream

The "Nachstudie" was originally the piano part of "Sphère – Kontrafaktor mit Klavier-Gegenkörper" and thus part of an orchestral work. Wolfgang Rihm then slightly modified the piano part and published it separately. Later he would use the same piano part as the core for additions with all sorts of different instruments – a suspenseful process producing a steady stream of new works that presumably will continue to flow.

John Cage (1912-1992)

violin & piano
Andreas Seidel, violin
Steffen Schleiermacher, piano
MDG 613 1607-2

Karlheinz Stockhausen (1928-2007)

Bass clarinet & piano
Tierkreis, Tanze Luzefa, In Freundschaft,
Klavierstücke VII-IX
Volker Hemken, Bass clarinet
Steffen Schleiermacher, piano
MDG 613 1451-2

Chamber Music of the Viennese School

Ensemble Avantgarde
Andreas Seidel, violin
Steffen Schleiermacher, piano
Matthias Kreher, clarinet
MDG 613 1217-2