

**CONNECTIONS - MUSIC FOR VIOLA & PIANO**



**IVO-JAN VAN DER WERFF (VIOLA), SIMON MARLOW (PIANO)**

This unique album couples two of the greatest works for viola and piano by two of the 20th-century's greatest composers, Dmitri Shostakovich and Benjamin Britten, contemporaries who were also staunch musical colleagues. Britten's 'Lachrymae' dates from 1950 and is a fantasy on a song by John Dowland; Shostakovich's Sonata is his very last work, completed in hospital just four days before his death. It is one of the composer's darkest, most moving masterpieces, full of subtle allusions and self-quotations. The recent three-movement work by the Canadian composer Karim Al-Zand, written for Ivo-Jan van der Werff, and receiving its world premiere here, also reflects on earlier music, making this unique coupling one of the most intriguing and suitable in the entire international catalogue.



GMCD 7414 7 95754 074142 1

- Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)
- 1 **Lachrymae** - Reflections on a song of Dowland for Viola and Piano, Op.48 14:07
  - Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)
  - Sonata for Viola and Piano, Op.147**
  - 2 I. Moderato 9:40
  - 3 II. Allegretto 7:39
  - 4 III. Adagio 14:50

- Karim Al-Zand (b.1970)
- Hollows and Dells for viola and piano**
- 5 I. I'll sing you one, oh! - quick, lively and exuberant 4:00
  - 6 II. O still, small voice - in moderate time, but flexible 5:19
  - 7 III. Reel en rondeau - very quick 3:34

**MUSIC FOR THE UNIVERSITY ZÜRICH**



**MUSIKKOLLEGIUM WINTERTHUR, AKADEMISCHER CHOR ZÜRICH (MALE VOICES), SCHMAZ SCHWULER MÄNNERCHOR ZÜRICH, MÄNNERCHOR ZÜRICH, WOLF MATTHIAS FRIEDRICH (BARITONE), KARL SCHEUBER (CONDUCTOR), ANNA JELMORINI (CONDUCTOR)**

2014 saw the centenary of the consecration of the imposing University of Zurich main building, an important occasion marked by this outstanding concert of familiar, new and unfamiliar music - with the familiar Brahms 'Academic Festival Overture' heard in the rarely-performed version whereby the final 'Gaudemus Igitur' is sung by the university choir, who are also heard in Friedrich Hegar's extremely rare Festive Cantata, composed 100 years ago for the occasion of the inauguration of the building. This impressive work is laid out on a spacious scale for soloists, male voice choir and large orchestra, and makes a deep impression in the wholly committed performance. Also new to the occasion, and likewise receiving its world premiere recording, the British-born but long-time Swiss resident Edward Rushton's 'Concrete' for full orchestra (plus a few

solis female voices) receives its world premiere recording in this powerful performance, making a compelling collection of music inspired by learning from across the decades.



GMCD 7415 7 95754 074152 1

- 1 Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) - **Academic Festival Overture, Op.80** 10:36  
*Musikkollegium Winterthur, Akademischer Chor Zürich (male voices), schmaz schwuler männerchor zürich, Männerchor Zürich, Karl Scheuber (conductor)*
- 2 Edward Rushton (b. 1972) - **Concrete** (World premiere recording) 18:52  
*Musikkollegium Winterthur, Soloists: Anna Gschwend, Stephanie Pfeffer, Sofia Pollak, Michaela Unsinn, Karl Scheuber (conductor)*
- 3 Friedrich Hegar (1841-1927) - **Festive Cantata on the occasion of the inauguration of the main building of the University of Zurich 1914, for soloists, male choir and large orchestra, Op.42** (World premiere recording) 49:45  
*Musikkollegium Winterthur, Akademischer Chor Zürich (male voices), schmaz schwuler männerchor zürich, Männerchor Zürich, Wolf Matthias Friedrich (baritone), Soloists: Anna Gschwend, Stephanie Pfeffer, Sofia Pollak, Michaela Unsinn, Tamás Bertalan Henter, Reto Knöpfel, Ján Rusko, Philipp Scherer, Anna Jelmorini (conductor)*