

ALEGRIA

MEIER: *Quarto com sol; Sparkling Light Inside; Camelo Brasileiro; Fora Da Cicade (Samba Lento) Fora Da Cicade (Samba Presto); Dreamland Suite; Prelude to a Walk Dance; Nightrain to Lisboa; Flusslied (River Song); Estar Contigo.* CAVAQUINHO/SILVA/TOMAZ: *Beija Flor.* TADIC: *Walk Dance.*

Peter Meier's Cascada (Peter Meier – Classical and Flamenco guitars; **Thomas Bouterwek** – Saxophones; **Jurgen Junggeburth** – Double Bass; **Matthias Philipzen** Percussion, with guests **Benedickt Overhoff** – trumpet; **Elizabeth Carvalho** and **Sophie Schnell** – Vocals; and **Lori Lorenzen** – Castanets and Marimba)

Available from www.meiermusic.de German-born Meier has got together a varied and eclectic mix of musicians and produced an album of mostly home-grown music that is light and on the jazzy side of latin. The tunes are friendly and the recording as clear as a bell and immediate. *Camelo Brasileira* has a nice bouncy feel to it, although *Beija Flor* one of only two cuts not by Meier immediately establishes itself as streets ahead of the previous tracks.

However that is not to denigrate what is a very enjoyable CD of some very immediately likeable music, which is never less than beautifully played

Chris Dumigan

VALSES POETICOS

PIAZZOLLA: *Inverno Porteno.* BACH: *Prelude, Fugue and Allegro BWV998.* SCULTHORPE: *From Kakadu.* GRANADOS: *Valses Poeticos (arr. Boyd).* BROUWER: *Hika (In Memoriam Toru Takemitsu).* ALBÉNIZ: *Sevilla.*

Rupert Boyd

Available from

www.rupertboyd.com

Although little of this CD will be new to the majority of our readers, the performances that Boyd gives here are first-rate. Witness the drama of the opening Piazzolla or the mystery of bygone ages as evidenced by the Sculthorpe. Even the Bach is one of the best of its kind although I doubt many of you will be buying this CD for the Bach, when so many other versions are

around of this piece. The Granados is the complete set, not the oft-truncated version one sometimes hears and sees. How techniques have evolved over the years. I remember well the sleeve notes from the John Williams album of the 70s with the edited version on, which said simply that rest of the work was unsuitable to the guitar! Perhaps the rarest piece here is the Brouwer, which is arguably the finest recording here, with its grave majesty and subtle nuances.

Altogether this is a fine CD from a player who deserves to be heard.

Chris Dumigan

TRANQUILLO

MEIER: *Canzonetta; Korfos (Meereslicht); Midnight Sky (Fantasia); Close.* TANSMAN: *Berceuse D'Orient.* DOMENICONI: *Ninna Nanna; Cammino Di Notte (Nachtweg); Quasi alla Turca.* SATIE: *Gnossienne No1.* GEDULD: *Ein Schoner Sommer; Sehnsucht; Die Stile Der Nacht; Romanze.* BACH: *Praludium BWV 846.*

Peter Meier

Here is a nicely varied mixture of music and styles, all of which nevertheless could be classed as late-night listening (hence the Tranquillo of the title) and the majority of which is liable to be completely new to most guitar CD aficionados. Even when one takes note of the home-spun quartet of melodies, which are very good indeed there can't be many who have come across the Geduld four-some, a set of elegant miniatures or perhaps even the Domeniconi, none of which I have come across before, and whose *Ninna Nanna* lullaby is wonderful and possibly my favourite of the whole CD (although the other two from Domeniconi come a very close second!)

Add to that a very natural recorded sound and you have a beautiful recording of some diverting and pleasant material.

Any brickbats? Well, I could have done without the Bach (*Prelude No1* from the first book of 24, minus Gounod), which still doesn't really work as a solo, but what is 2 minutes out of 50? Nothing worth worrying about! Nicely done.

Chris Dumigan

KOYUNBABA (CD single)

DOMENICONI: *Suite for guitar Opus 19; Koyunbaba.*

Samuel T. Klemke

Available from www.klemke.de

The German brother and sister duo Laura and Samuel Klemke play both as soloists and as a duo. I have seen some of their work before, and it is very impressive. Here is a 3-inch CD single lasting 14 minutes and 23 seconds consisting of just the one piece, the famous *Koyunbaba*, which many of you must have at least come across a handful of times before if you have ever been to guitar recitals, as it is frequently played.

That said, this is a vibrantly played and yet poetic performance that really succeeds in bringing out the music's mystery and thought provoking stillness that inhabits much of its duration. Perhaps this CD is only meant as a demo for the Klemkes, perhaps not. Whatever the intention this is a wonderful performance that beats hands down many others I have heard.

Chris Dumigan

PRELUDIO (CD single)

FALCKENHAGEN: *Preludio Nel Quale Sono Contenuti Tutti I Tuoni Musicali.*

Laura Klemke

Available from www.klemke.de

This staggering piece lasts no less than 24 minutes and six seconds and is but one piece from the late baroque lutenist Adam Falckenhagen and literally consists of the entire 24 keys all in one piece. I have never heard its like before, especially not in a lute work which incidentally our performer has done a great job transcribing. Moreover this uniquely original work has received a brilliant performance from this talented lady. As for the piece, well, it is utterly indescribable and has to be a complete one-off (Can anyone else think of such an extended one-movement work for the lute lasting 24 minutes?)

Therefore in summation all I can say is, if you want to hear it, here you have a superb recording of it. What more can I say?

Chris Dumigan