

artist: Todd Levy, clarinet
Jeannie Yu, piano
with Elena Abend, piano and
Rene Izquierd, guitar

title: Rhapsodie: 20th Century Clarinet Classics by
Bartók, Bernstein, Debussy, D’Rivera, Finzi,
Larsen, Ravel

price: Full price

release date: 11 November 2016

selection number: AV 2367

bar code: 822252236729

about the release

Grammy Award-winning clarinetist **Todd Levy**, who holds the principal chairs with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and Santa Fe Opera, presents *Rhapsodie*, an astonishing array of classic 20th-century works for his instrument. The rich palette of colors and immense versatility of the clarinet is on full display in impressionistic Debussy and Ravel, Cubanist-style Bernstein, pastoral Finzi, the folk idioms of Bartok, klezmer inspiration by Béla Kovács, blues-inflected Libby Larsen and genre-bending Paquito D’Rivera. Todd’s technical wizardry is flawless throughout and is matched by his collaborators pianists Jeannie Wu and Elena Abend, and guitarist Rene Izquierd.

critical acclaim for Todd Levy

“It takes but a single solo at a Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra concert to fall under the spell of principal clarinetist Todd Levy’s fluid tone and expressive phrasing. In his new CD, Brahms/Schumann ... the Avie label has given the classical music world compelling evidence of an artistic treasure that belongs to Milwaukee.” – *Milwaukee Magazine*

“Levy plays to perfection.” – *Classic FM Magazine*

“A rich tone and burnished chalumeau register mark Levy’s hearty playing” *Audiophile Audition*

summary

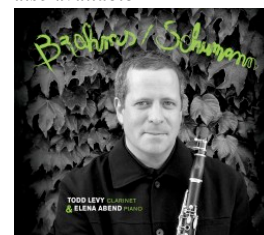
Todd Levy, principal clarinet of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and Santa Fe Opera, presents *Rhapsodie*, a diverse array of classical 20th-century works for his instrument.

tracklist

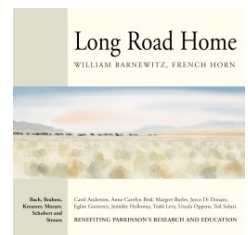
- Gerald Finzi** (1901 – 1956)
Five Bagatelles
1. Prelude (3:53)
 2. Romance (4:27)
 3. Carol (1:52)
 4. Forlana (3:06)
 5. Fughetta (2:20)
- Leonard Bernstein** (1918 – 1990)
Sonata for Clarinet and Piano
6. Grazioso (3:34)
 7. Andantino e Vivace (6:51)
- Béla Bartók** (1881 – 1945)
Romanian Folk Dances
(arr. Zoltán Székely/adapted by Kálmán Berkes)
8. Joc cu băță (Stick Dance) (1:21)
 9. Brâul (Sash Dance) (0:39)
 10. Pe loc (In One Spot) (1:25)
 11. Buciumeana (Dance from Bucsum) (1:32)
 12. Poarga Românească (Romanian Polka) (0:36)
 13. Măruntel (Fast Dance) (1:02)

- Claude Debussy** (1862 – 1918)
14. *Première rhapsodie* (8:27)
- Maurice Ravel** (1875 – 1937)
15. *Pièce en forme de habanera* (3:14)
- Libby Larsen** (b. 1950)
Blue Third Pieces for Clarinet and Guitar
16. Deep Blue (4:04)
 17. Salt Peanuts (3:29)
- Béla Kovács** (b. 1937)
18. *Sholem-alekhem, rov Feidman!* (4:58)
19. *Hommage à Manuel De Falla* (3:29)
- Paquito D’Rivera** (b. 1948)
20. *Vals Venezolano* (3:09)
21. *Tributo a Lecuona* (3:51)
22. *Contradanza* (2:19)
- Total time: 69:48
- Recorded May 5, 2009 (Bernstein), November 14, 2011 and December 5, 2011 (Finzi), May 9, 2016 (Bartók, D’Rivera, Kovács, Larsen, Ravel), at Tanner/Monagle Studio, Milwaukee, WI; June 1, 2006 (Debussy) at The Exchange Recording Complex, Milwaukee, WI
Producer: Rick Walters / Engineer: Ric Probst

also available



AV 2098



AV 2126

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

media targets

Classical, Chamber Music

advertising

Print: Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine, International Clarinet Association

Online: Facebook, Twitter

Sponsorship: Selmer, Vandoren

reviews

Magazines: Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine, Listen, Fanfare, American Record Guide

Newspapers: Sunday Times, Financial Times, Daily Telegraph, Guardian, Observer, Milwaukee Journal

airplay

Classic FM; BBC Radio 3 – Record Review, Breakfast, In Tune; Wisconsin Public Radio

key territories

USA

listening link

<https://soundcloud.com/usicompanyinternationaltd/sets/rhapsodie-20th-century-clarinet-classics>

lead / instant grat tracks

Track 8 – Bartók *Romanian Folk Dances*: Joc cu bâță (Stick Dance)

Track 15 – Ravel *Pièce en forme de habanera*

Track 22 – D’Rivera *Contradanza*

social media

AVIE Records: Facebook – 720; Twitter – 1,310

independent pr

n/a

tour dates

n/a

digital

iTunes links in social media, Spotify playlisting