

ARTIST: LAURIE HUDICEK, PIANO

TITLE: GEORGE CRUMB: MAKROKSMOS, 24  
FANTASY-PIECES AFTER THE ZODIAC FOR  
AMPLIFIED PIANO

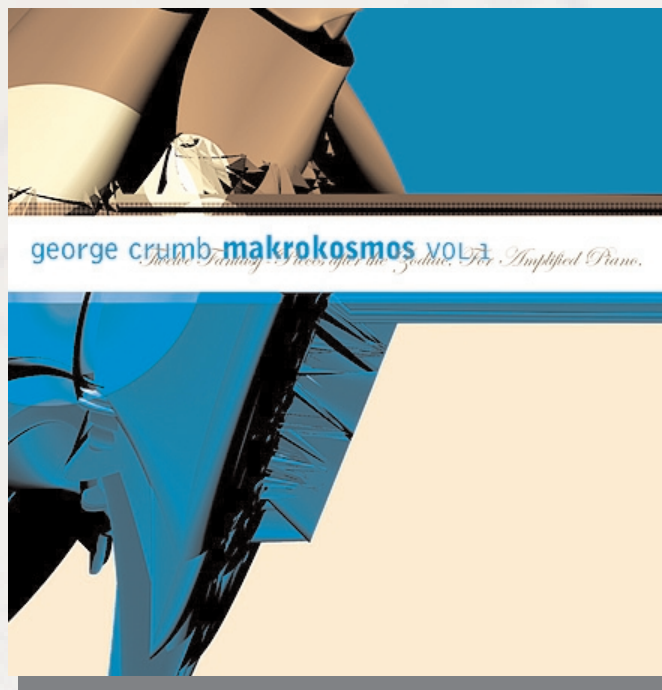
GENRE: CLASSICAL, CONTEMPORARY

CAT. No.: FACD6805

FORMAT: CD WITH 24 PAGE BOOKLET

LABEL: FURIOUS ARTISANS

RELEASE: MARCH 15, 2002



In 1971, George Crumb set out to compose a set of piano pieces; the preludes of Debussy and Chopin as well as Well Tempered Klavier of J.S. Bach come to mind as prototypes. What emerged after two years of painstaking distillation, Crumb's **Makrokosmos Vol. 1 & 2 for amplified piano**, has proved a worthy heir to its 18th and 19th century analogs. *Makrokosmos* is a multi-dimensional odyssey through a universe of metaphysical timbres created via a compendium of extended piano techniques. These include the use of metal chains, paper on the strings, wire brush, paper clip, metal thimbles, whistling and Latin incantations. Crumb closes the 'magic circle of infinity' with these exceptional works, fusing performer with instrument, music with timbre, primitive with modern, terror with romance, lyricism with violence.

Taking advantage of state-of-the-art digital recording technology, producer Marc Wolf & Engineer Jeremy Tressler have captured George Crumb's timeless *Makrokosmos* in stunning detail, clarity and dynamic range. Furious Artisans newest release promises to take the listener literally inside the guts of a 9 foot Steinway. If you need to own one version of *Makrokosmos*, this is the one!

**Acclaim for furious artisan's Makrokosmos:**

"Thanks so much for sending me Laurie Hudicek's recording of my solo MAKROKOSMOS. Her performances are superb and I will be delighted to see this new CD recording made available. .... It makes composing seem worthwhile when one's music is so effectively and sensitively interpreted."

-George Crumb, January 2002

Pianist **Laurie Hudicek's** performances have been called "engaging" and "remarkable for [their] thoughtfulness and expression" (*21st Century Music*). A proponent of 20th Century Music, especially works that incorporate extended techniques, Ms Hudicek counts the great masterpieces of George Crumb and John Cage in her repertoire. Ms. Hudicek has been recipient of many awards including a top prize in the Crane Festival of New Music National Solo Performers Competition (1995) and was a fellow at the Annual Institute for Contemporary Music Performance in Buffalo, NY (1995). In addition she has been a grant recipient from both the Levine School of Music and Jordan Kitts Music. Ms. Hudicek is on the piano faculty at St. Mary's College of Maryland and is assistant chair of the piano department at the Selma Levine School of Music in Washington D.C.

**George Crumb** is internationally recognized as a composer and has traveled abroad extensively for the State Department and other organizations to Asia, Australia and Europe. His music has been widely performed and recorded both in the US and around the world, and his orchestral works have been performed by all the major American orchestras.

Audience enthusiasm, critical acclaim and colleagues' praise have been extensive for Crumb's works. Among those qualities that are most frequently cited are the following: an extraordinarily sensitive ear resulting in highly refined timbral nuances; a very powerful evocative sense and a sureness and concision in realizing his musical intentions. All of these interact structurally to form a body of music that is moving and convincing.

CD-REPERTOIRE:

1. **Primeval Sounds** (Genesis I) *Cancer* [4:20]
2. **Proteus Pisces** [1:16]
3. **Pastorale** (from the Kingdom of Atlantis, ca.10,000 B.C.) *Taurus* [2:07]
4. **Crucifixus Capricorn** [2:38]
5. **The Phantom Gondolier** *Scorpio* [2:45]
6. **Night-Spell I** *Sagittarius* [3:48]
7. **Music of Shadows** (for Aeolian Harp) *Libra* [2:50]
8. **The Magic Circle of Infinity** (Moto perpetuo) *Leo* [1:49]
9. **The Abyss of Time** *Virgo* [2:30]
10. **Spring-Fire** *Aries* [1:44]
11. **Dream Images** (Love-Death Music) *Gemini* [4:09]
12. **Spiral Galaxy** *Aquarius* [2:50]
13. **Morning Music** (Genesis II) *Cancer* [3:00]
14. **The Mystic Chord** *Sagittarius* [2:47]
15. **Rain-Death Variations** *Pisces* [1:41]
16. **Twin Suns** (Doppelgänger aus der Ewigkeit) *Gemini* [3:21]
17. **Ghost-Nocturne:** for the Druids of Stonehenge (Night-Spell II) *Virgo* [1:52]
18. **Gargoyles** *Taurus* [1:22]
19. **Tora! Tora! Tora!** (Cadenza Apocalittica) *Scorpio* [2:33]
20. **A Prophecy of Nostradamus** *Aries* [3:49]
21. **Cosmic Wind** *Libra* [1:55]
22. **Voices from "Corona Borealis"** *Aquarius* [3:31]
23. **Litany of the Galactic Bells** *Leo* [2:36]
24. **Agnus Dei** *Capricorn* [3:47]