



ORIGINALS AND BEYOND

Original transcriptions for piano duo

Arnold Schönberg
Chamber Symphony No. I, Op. 9

Ludwig van Beethoven
Great Fuge, Op. 134

Robert Schumann
Symphony No. 2 in C major, Op. 61
(*premiere recording*)

PIANO | DUO
TAKAHASHI | LEHMANN

The début album of the **PianoDuo Takahashi|Lehmann** marks the beginning of the cooperation between the brilliant duo and audite. This and the following album, scheduled for release in spring 2015, explore the multifaceted cosmos of transcriptions for piano duet. The virtuoso pianists combine their passionate expressivity with an intellectual programmatic conception. Their equally intelligent and touching playing makes even seemingly abstract works accessible to the listener.



In this recording, the musicians focus on three orchestral and ensemble masterpieces, arranged for piano duet by their own composers: Beethoven's compendium of the high art of composing; Schumann's regeneration of the symphony through the Romantic spirit; Schoenberg's shift to Modernism. These transcriptions come alive thanks to the suspense between the piano's own sound and the suggestion of colours which do not form part of the instrument's spectrum. Moreover, the more abstract sound reveals insights into the conception of the works which would otherwise remain hidden. The transcriptions demand and activate the listener's imagination – a virtue of all the works recorded here being the intensity of the Romantic "As If".

The **PianoDuo Takahashi|Lehmann** was founded in Berlin in 2009. The musicians perform in many European countries as well as in Korea and Japan.

Norie Takahashi first came to prominence by winning awards at numerous competitions, including the International Beethoven Competitions in Bonn and Vienna, the Schubert Competition in Graz, the Leeds International Piano Competition and the Queen Elizabeth Competition in Brussels. After gaining a music diploma in Tokyo, she continued her studies with Klaus Hellwig at the Universität der Künste Berlin. She also received artistic inspiration from distinguished musicians such as Bruno Leonardo Gelber, Robert Levin, Ferenc Rados, Pascal Devoyon and Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau. Norie Takahashi appears as soloist and chamber musician in many European countries as well as in Asia.

Björn Lehmann studied in Hamburg, Lausanne and at the Universität der Künste Berlin with Klaus Hellwig. He also received important artistic inspiration from Ferenc Rados, Leonard Hokanson, Robert Levin, Zoltan Kocsis, members of the Amadeus Quartet, Hartmut Höll and Irwin Gage. In 2011 Björn Lehmann was made professor at the Universität der Künste Berlin. He regularly gives master classes and appears as soloist and chamber musician in Europe, Latin America and Asia.

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TRANSCRIPTIONS AND BEYOND

Transcriptions for piano duo

Igor Stravinsky: *Le Sacre du Printemps*
 (arranged for piano duet by the composer)

Arnulf Herrmann: *Hausmusik for piano duet*

Conlon Nancarrow: *Sonatina*

Igor Stravinsky: *Concerto for two pianos*

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