

Gary Schocker has been continually acknowledged since his child-prodigy days as a world-class flutist, he also is an award-winning composer who has written for woodwind instruments, piano, and voice. He has also created two Broadway musicals. A busy touring performer, Gary Schocker is an unusually versatile musician who performs as pianist as well as flutist, and whose many compositions have attracted a worldwide audience and numerous awards. The poetic and virtuosic flute playing you'll hear on this CD has brought him great critical acclaim, not only as a recitalist and concerto soloist, but in chamber ensemble settings as well. Gary is a member of a busy performance duo with guitarist Jason Vieaux. "What sets his performance apart from others is the directness of the playing, the lack of artifice and the presence of musical urgency. Schocker uses the flute to communicate his own enthusiasm and considerable insights" – hails The Philadelphia Inquirer.

Gary Schocker has performed widely in the United States and abroad, including engagements with the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the West German Sinfonia and I Solisti Italiani, and most recently played the inaugural concert for the Centennial Season of the Dallas Symphony. He attended the Juilliard School where he studied flute with Julius Baker and Samuel Baron, and piano with Earl Wild. As a composer he is self-taught, and currently has over 80 works in publication. James Galway premiered Schocker's Green Places, a flute concerto, in Ireland. Schocker's show Far From the Madding Crowd, which he wrote with Barbara Campbell, was the recipient of the National Alliance of Theater Producers annual award and received performances in New York in 2000. The same show received its official world premiere in Christchurch, NZ in September 2000.

regrets

His other recordings include Far From The Madding Crowd and The Awakening (two works for the theatre on Original Cast Records), Airborne (an all-Schocker CD, on the Jonathan Digital label, JDR1002), and two CDs for Chesky Records: a Mozart CD and a Baroque flute CD. Soon to be released on the Azica label is a duo CD with guitarist Jason Vieaux. His compositions can be heard on the Koch, SNE, Troy, Sazas, Gionata, Flying Frog Music, Elysium and Innova labels.

For more information on Gary Schocker, visit www.garyschocker.com; for more information on Gary Schocker's compositions, visit www.presser.com/schocker.html.

Dennis Helmrich, a native of Newark, New Jersey, began his piano studies at the age of five. He graduated from Yale University with a bachelor's degree cum laude, a master's degree with honors, and prizes from the Lockwood and Ditson foundations and the National Endowment for the Arts, having studied piano with Donald Currier and theoretical and historical subjects with a numerous and distinguished faculty.

After pursuing doctoral studies at Boston University under Bela Boszormenyi-Nagy, at the age of twenty-four he joined the music faculty of Antioch College in Ohio, and subsequently the faculties of the State University of New York campuses at Albany and Purchase, the Jewish Theological Seminary, the Manhattan School of Music in New York City, and New York University. Invited to the Tanglewood Festival in 1969 to aid in the musical preparation of Berg's Wozzeck under Erich Leinsdorf, in the following year Helmrich was appointed Vocal Music Coach at the Tanglewood Music Center, a position he has held ever since. During the summer of 1996 he supervised the musical preparation of two casts of singers for the 50th anniversary performances under Maestro Seiji Ozawa of Benjamin Britten's Peter Grimes.

A continuing interest in contemporary music has led Helmrich to give first performances of many American compositions. For four years he was co-director of Hear America First*, a New York concert series devoted to the performance of American music. He has recorded chamber music and songs on the Orion, Spectrum, Nonesuch, Chesky, Musical Heritage, Albany, Newport Classics, Delos, and Samsung labels. His fourteenth CD, devoted to the songs of John Alden Carpenter, was released in June of 2000. His publications include translations of opera libretti and song texts, as well as opera supertitles.

Franz Doppler (1821-1883) was born in L'vov. He settled in Pest where he played in two orchestras and composed for the National Theatre. None of these recordings could have been possible without Theobald Boehm (1794-1881) who was a goldsmith and industrial consultant, and who invented a modern flute. Thanks! Karl Joachim Andersen (1847-1919) was born in Copenhagen the same year Boehm invented the modern flute. Paul Taffanel (1844-1908) and Philippe Gaubert (1879-1941) together wrote the bible of flute studies. Taffanel was the first to embrace the new Boehm flute and taught it at the Paris Conservatoire. Gaubert was the son of Taffanel's maid. Gaubert eventually became the conductor of the Paris Conservatoire Orchestra. Johannes Donjon's (1839-1912) Etude de Salon is based on a little poem describing autumn leaves having fallen into the ruts which a carriage has made in the road. Gary Schocker's Scherzo was written in 1975, the first piece of classical music he had written since he was seven. The Sicilienne was written to accompany the scherzo when Gary Schocker originally recorded these works. Regrets and Resolutions was commissioned to celebrate Mortimer Levitt's 80th birthday. The first movement of the composition looks back, a little sadly, and the allegro charges confidently forward.

Originally released by MHS, this recording is part of The Mortimer Levitt Library of Young Concert Artists, a collection of recording debuts sponsored by Young Concert Artists, Inc.

PAUL TAFFANEL (1844) 19.08)

- 1. Andante Pastorale (3:21)
- 2. Scherzettino (1:39)

PHILIPPE GAUBERT (1879-1941)

3. Sicilienne (2:52)

THEOBALD BOEHM (1794-1881)

- 4. Introduction (2:55)
- 5. Grand Polonaise (8:15)

KARL JOACHIM ANDERSEN (1847-1909)

6. Scherzino (1:34)

GARY SCHOCKER

7. Sicilienne and Scherzo (5:00)

JOHANNES DONJON (1839-1912)

8. Etude de Salon (2:15)

PHILIPPE GAUBERT

9. Madrigal (4:09)

ERANZ DOPPLER (1821-1883)

10. Fantasie Pastorale Hongroise. Op. 26 (11:05)

FRIEDRICH KUHLAU (1786-1832)

11. Divertissement No.5 (6:53)

PHILIPPE GAUBERT

12. Nocturne et Allegro Scherzando (5:42)

GARY SCHOCKER

13. Regrets and Resolutions (7:52)

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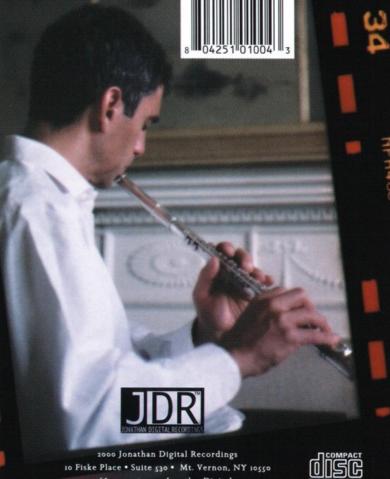
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Total playing time 63:39



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