

DUO 2XM (SFZ records, SFZ 1007, distribution CDA)

Indian raga and russian avant-garde on flute and guitar

Duo 2xm (also known as 2x Möller) is probably Sweden's most active flute and guitar duo. After more than 120 concerts and two cds (nosag 026, nosag 054) Mats and Johannes Möller have performed most of the traditional repertoire for flute and guitar (Giuliani, Piazzolla, Ibert and others). On their new cd they have chosen six works written from 1944 and on, by composers from different parts of the world.

– In our time all music styles are present at the same time, and this has a great influence also on Western art music, says Johannes Möller.

This is why you on this cd will find Indian raga together with Russian avant-garde (Shankar and Denisov), music from the djungles of Puerto Rico and beautiful melodies inspired by Erik Satie as well as by popular music (Sierra and Agdur).

The first piece is Ravi Shankar's *The enchanted Dawn*, based on a raga from the 16th century and a virtuous journey through Indian music. In his *Serenade* from 1944 the Swiss Willy Burkhard uses different styles of music from different times. You will find liturgical sounds and burlesque sections reminiscent of Mahler. The Russian composer Edison Denisov belonged to the group of avant-garde composers in the Soviet Union who had difficulties getting their music performed. Instead he wrote plenty of music for films and became a master of writing in different styles. In his *Sonata* from 1977 – one of the most demanding works written for flute and guitar – he used several extended techniques for the flute as well as the guitar (multiphonics, slap tongue, string-crossing techniques and others). The short piece *Over the Water* by Johannes Möller, written in 2000, uses a rather small musical subject which develops in different sections. Roberto Sierra from Puerto Rico studied with György Ligeti in Germany and in his musical language you will find sounds from the Western academic world as well as folk music from Latin America and sounds from the Caribbean nights. In his *Chronicle of Discovery* he depicts the meeting between the Spanish Conquistadores and the aboriginal Indian culture in the 16th century. The last work on the cd is a suite of *Miniatures* by the Swedish composer Göran Agdur, a version for flute and guitar of some of his piano music written in the 80s. Agdur's musical language is intimate, not far from that of Satie or Pärt, and catches the listener's ear in an astounding way.

Further information about the production and press pictures: www.sforzando.se/1007

More information about Duo 2xm will be find on their homepage www.sforzando.se/e/2xm

The cd is distributed through CDA (Compact Distribution AB), Sweden, +46 8 442 11 20, +46 8 442 11 33 (fax), info@cda.se.