

Frozen River Flows

New Noise

Janey Miller (oboe, oboe d'amore, cor anglais), **Joby Burgess** (percussion)

Over the last ten years New Noise has commissioned more than 50 pieces for this unusual combination, in styles ranging from classical to electronic to jazz and contemporary music.

In this album the eclectic mix of styles is very much in evidence. **Nigel Osborne's** *Journey to the End of the Night* has the oboe playing with church bells; **Adrian Lee's** *Peace for Vayu* uses a haunting oboe d'amore; and **Howard Skempton's** *Random Girl* has a starlike beauty.

In *Sphinx*, **Simon Holt** has the cor anglais attempting to fathom the unfathomable. The title track, *Frozen River Flows*, is a beautiful meditation by **Dobrinka Tabakova**.

Two longer works complete the CD - **Xenakis'** 1976 energetic *Dmaathen*; and seven *Bagatelles* by **George Nicholson**, using three oboes and a startling array of percussion.

The 12-page CD booklet is in full colour, with a programme note in English and many photos. The download version includes an introduction to the music, but no details or biographies. More details can be found at www.oboeconcerts.com/FrozenRiver.htm.

This is a new CD, yet to be reviewed, but here is a comment from the international oboe soloist Nicholas Daniel:

"Under normal circumstances having heard a new Oboe CD I would put it into my collection in Germany for my students to comment on, but they just can't wrench this one out of my hands yet! I'm so happy to have the chance to share my enthusiasm and to encourage people not to be scared just because it's new music, but to buy it and support the intrepid work of New Noise in their voyage of discovery.

"The composers on this fabulous disc range from absolutely wild to superbly cool, and all the works here have something important to say in their way. What I love about the choice of pieces is a wonderful catholicity of taste, huge variety of sounds and acoustic recording styles, and that the performers choose works for recording by their quality alone."



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