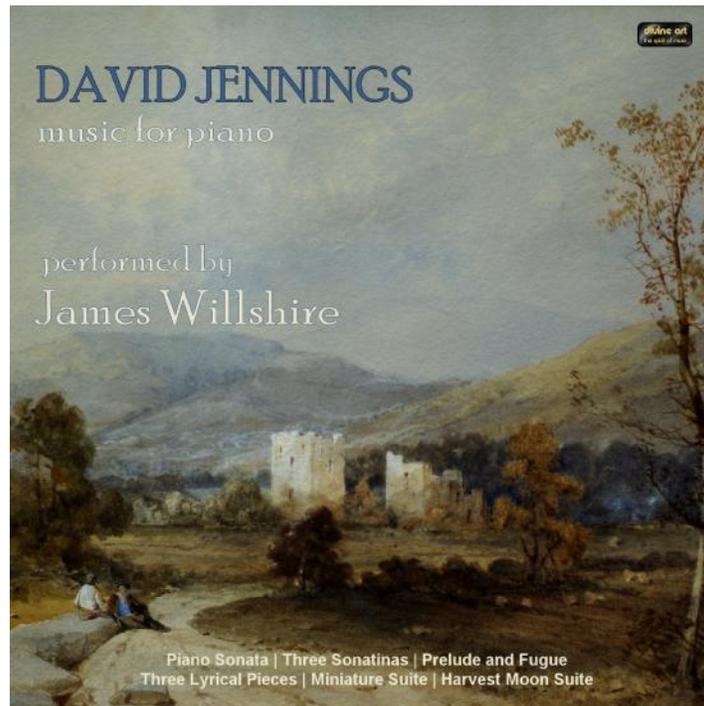




New Release - Press Information



ARTIST(S): James Willshire
COMPOSER(S): David Jennings (b 1972)
TITLE: Music for Piano
CATALOGUE NUMBER: DDA25110 [Bar Code 0809730511028]
RELEASE DATE: 12th November 2012
PRICE POINT: Single CD/Full Price (UK Dealer £7.95)

Track Listing:

Piano Sonata Op. 1; Sonatina No. 1, Op. 2 No. 1; Sonatina No. 2 Op. 2 No. 2; Sonatina No. 3, Op. 2 No. 3; Prelude and Fugue Op. 6; Three Lyrical Pieces Op. 17; Miniature Suite Op. 18; Harvest Moon Suite Op. 19

Total Playing Time 77.51



Repertoire/Product Information:

THE EDITION

This disc gathers together all Jennings piano music composed between 1985 and 2010 and offers his complete works for the instrument to date. This is truly wonderful music and deserving of the widest possible audience – highly accessible but at the same time extremely difficult to play.

The earliest pieces on this disc have their origins in Jennings' childhood. Hearing his mother, Margaret Jennings (a fine pianist), perform pieces by composers such as Schubert, Schumann, Chopin, Grieg and Sinding on the family upright piano made a great impression on him and influenced his earliest attempts at composition. Hand in hand with these influences was a growing passion for English music of the early to mid Twentieth Century. His knowledge of more recent musical trends was restricted at this stage (the late 1980s) until he went to study at Durham University in 1990.

David Jennings was born in Sheffield in 1972. He started to compose music at the age of twelve. He read Music at Durham University with the distinguished composer John Casken and went on to Manchester University to study composition at postgraduate level, again with John Casken.

His works are in a variety of musical genres from piano miniatures to large orchestral pieces. They have been successfully performed by professionals of the highest calibre, such as members of the Northern Sinfonia. Early exposure to the works of Elgar, Vaughan Williams, Moeran, Bridge and Bax helped to give his music its distinctive warm, glowing quality, further enhanced by his admiration for Gershwin and Medieval music. An appreciation for the landscape of the North of England has also left a positive mark on Jennings's music, which aims to recreate its sense of timelessness. The composer is strongly influenced by poetry and the visual arts, particularly English Nineteenth Century watercolours, which he feels are an inspiring marriage of technique and expression. David Jennings is a member of the Lakeland Composers and a regular reviewer for Music Web International. Future projects include a series of substantial chamber works.

For further details about the composer and his music, please visit his website:
www.davidjenningscomposer.co.uk

Artist Information:

James Willshire appears as concerto soloist, solo recitalist and chamber musician throughout the UK and abroad. He has performed a wide-ranging concerto repertoire with orchestras including the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and The Ensemble of London, and collaborated with conductors Benjamin Zander and Michael Christie. He has given solo recitals at concert halls and festivals throughout the UK, Europe, Russia, Australia, South Africa, the US and has toured India three times.

At the age of fifteen James was awarded an Educational Scholarship in the 2000 London International Piano Competition, the youngest British pianist to receive the award. He has won a great many scholarships. In 2005 James won the Liszt Prize and



the McCullum Prize for the most Promising Young Pianist in the Royal Overseas League Competition. He was awarded first prize in the Piano section of the 2006 Tunbridge Wells International Young Concert Artists Competition and was also a prize-winner in the 2007 Scottish International Piano Competition. In 2008 he was a winner of the Making Music Philip and Dorothy Green Award and in the same year was sixth in the Maria Canals International Piano Competition.

James has performed at many festivals throughout the UK and abroad, including the Lichfield, Cheltenham and Winchester Festivals, the Kilkenny Arts Festival, the Cantilena Festival, the Edinburgh Fringe, the Roman River Festival, 'Il Festival di Londra' in Italy where he gave the opening recital, the Glasgow Festival of Youth Orchestras where he appeared as guest soloist and the Paxos International Festival. He has given concerts in the Bridgewater, Barbican, and Royal Festival Hall, where he gave his debut recital in 2008. Broadcasts include live performances on the Performance Channel and Indian National Radio and appearances on British and Irish Television.

A regular performer of contemporary music, James has recently released his debut recording of the complete piano works by the Scottish composer Rory Boyle to critical acclaim, receiving a 5 star review from the Scotsman. Future recording commitments include a double-disc recording of the piano music by Ronald Stevenson.

James is passionate about teaching and currently teaches in the Junior Conservatoire at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. His website can be accessed at www.jameswillshire.co.uk

Additional Details & Marketing:

The CD will be fully serviced to all UK classical music press and radio.

Advertising will include major classical music magazines and publications.

For more details, and to request a review sample, please contact John Cronin at Music & Media Consulting Limited.