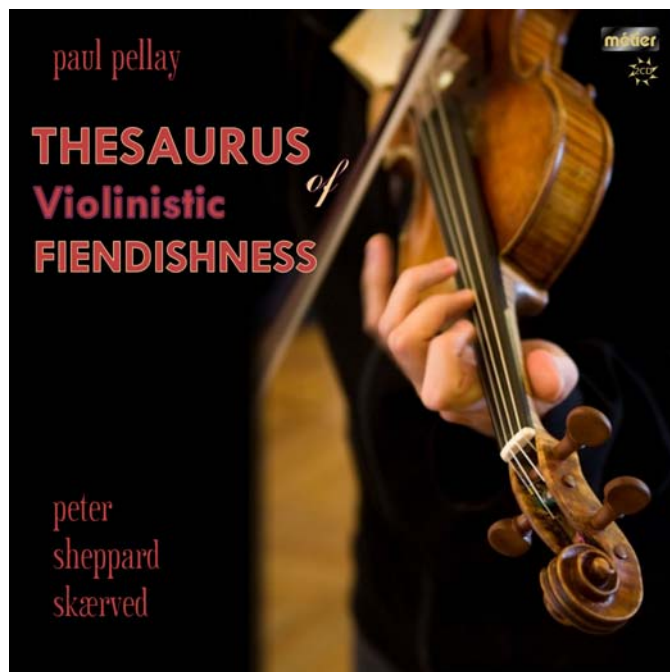




New Release - Press Information



ARTIST(S): Peter Sheppard Skærved
COMPOSER(S): Paul Pellay (b1965)
TITLE: Thesaurus of Violinistic Fiendishness
CATALOGUE NUMBER: MSV28527 [Bar Code 080973082725]
RELEASE DATE: 26th March 2012
PRICE POINT: CD2/Slimline Case/Mid Price x 2/UK Dealer £10.20

Track Listing:

CD1: Book I [2002] No. 1 – No. 6; Book II – Black Studies (after Goya) [2003] No. 1 – No. 8; Book III – Mid South Recollections [2003] No. 1 – No. 5; Book IV – Dovetail Variants, Deviants and Digressions [2003].

CD2: Book V – Sereno (Polittico Ungarettiano)[2003]; Book VI – Con(Di)vergencyes [2004]; Book VII [2004]

Total Playing Time: 111.04



Repertoire/Product/Composer Information:

Born in 1965 at Imperia, Italy, **Paul Pellay** moved to England in 1978. From 1980 to 1986 he studied piano with Ronald Smith, after which he entered the Royal Academy of Music as a postgraduate student in composition under Paul Patterson. From 1990 to 1993 he resided in America, entering Memphis State University, where he continued his studies under John Baur, Donald Freund and Kamran Ince.

His works have been performed all over the world by artists such as John Bradbury (clarinet), Shelly Sublett (oboe), Peter Sheppard Skaerved (violin), Richard Dubugnon (double bass), the Helvet Quartet, the Kreutzer Quartet, the Nash Ensemble, members of the Paris National Opera Orchestra, the City of London Sinfonia, the Britten Sinfonia, the Cambridgeshire County Youth Orchestra and the Memphis Symphony Orchestra. Conductors who have championed his music include Edward Gregson, Elgar Howarth, Lionel Friend, Richard Hickox, Nicholas Cleobury, Roger Smalley, Ron Spigelman and Alan Balter. He has been active as a freelance music editor, working with various composers and publishers. He has been involved with school projects in Canterbury's annual Sounds New Music Festival in 1997-2000. From 2001 to 2003 he taught composition and orchestration at Thames Valley University in London.

Whilst the title reflects the difficulties of performing this mammoth work for solo violin, it does not convey the listening experience, which is less challenging than one might expect - indeed many sections of the work are quite lyrical and full of wit as well as virtuosic complexity. Performed with his usual panache and awesome skill by Peter Sheppard Skærved.

Artist Information:

Peter Sheppard Skærved is the dedicatee of well over 200 works for solo violin, by composers such as George Rochberg, Judith Weir, Michael Finnissy, Paul Ruders, and Hans Werner Henze. He regularly appears as soloist in over 30 countries. His discography is extensive, ranging from cycles of solo works by Beethoven, Reicha, Cui, and Telemann, the complete quartets of David Matthews, Michael Tippett, and cycles of concerti from Haydn to Henze. He is particularly noted for his performances of Tartini's 30 solo sonatas, and for his one-evening performances of the Bach Sonatas & Partitas.

'PSS' has won awards from the BBC Music Magazine, been nominated for a Gramophone Award, as well as a GRAMMY for a concerto recording in 2007. Peter Sheppard Skærved is the founder and leader of the Kreutzer Quartet and the Munich-based Ensemble Triolog. He regularly appears as director and soloist with ensembles such as the Zagreb Soloists and Athelas Sinfonietta Copenhagen. Peter Sheppard Skærved is the only British violinist to have been invited to play on Paganini's violin 'Il Cannone' more than once (five times in particular) and gives recitals on the historic instruments at the Library of Congress, Washington. He plays on a 1698 Stradivari owned by Joseph Joachim from the collections of the Royal Academy of Music.

For more details visit www.peter-sheppard-skaerved.com

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.