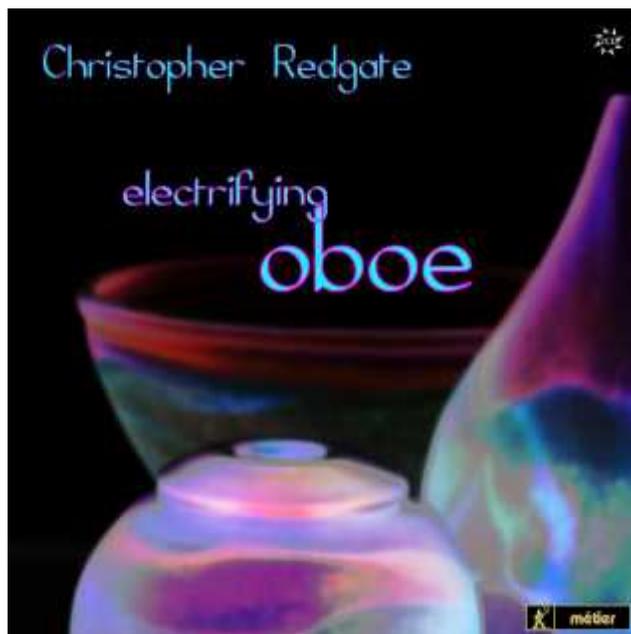




New Release - Press Information



ARTIST(S): Christopher Redgate; Ensemble Exposé et al
COMPOSER(S): Various
TITLE: Electrifying Oboe
CATALOGUE NUMBER: MSV77204 [Bar Code 0809730720420]
RELEASE DATE: 3rd February 2014
PRICE POINT: 2CD Slimline/Mid Price/UK Dealer £10.20

Track Listing:

Roger Redgate: Concerto for Improvising Soloist and Two Ensembles*; **David Gorton:** Erinnerungsspiel**; **Christopher Fox:** Headlong; **Michael Young:** oboe_prosthesis; **Edwin Roxburgh:** at the still point of the turning world***; **David Gorton:** Schmetterlingspiel*; **Christopher Fox:** Broadway Boogie; **Matthew Wright:** English Landscape Painting*; **Michael Young:** oboe_prosthesis; **Roger Redgate:** Concerto for Improvising Soloist and Two Ensembles*

*Ensemble Exposé; **Matthew Wright (turntable/laptop);*** Paul Archbold (electronics); **** Milton Mermikides (electronics)

Total Playing Time: 145.20



Repertoire/Product Information:

Two themes unite the works on these CDs: the first is the use of electronics and the second, the performer's input into the compositional process. All of the works save one, Gorton's *Schmetterlingsspiel*, employ electronics as part of the performance but in each work the electronics are used in very different ways. The performer's input into the works also varies considerably.

Many of the works have included collaborative activity between the composer and performer; examples of these collaborative activities include demonstrating the musette to Christopher Fox through to an in-depth study of multiphonic resources with David Gorton and Matthew Wright. However, the performer's input is also involved at the performance level itself. Gorton gives the performer structural choices in each of his pieces while in Redgate's work the soloist's "score simply outlines the overall structure of the work and is otherwise fully improvised." Only the works of Christopher Fox do not ask the performer for this kind of interpretive activity.

Two of the works have been presented twice on the CDs: Redgate's *Concerto for Improvising Soloist and Two Ensembles* and Young's *oboe_prosthesis*. Each of these works involves very significant levels of improvisation from the soloist, and, in the case of the Redgate, from one of the ensembles as well. The results of such extensive improvisational input, (and in the case of the Young, remarkably varied responses from the electronics) are that the recordings offer significantly different performances and fascinating comparisons.

Artist Information:

"Redgate is one of a tiny band of oboists across the world who have made a life's work of taking the instrument into the farthest reaches of technical virtuosity and physical capability, and in doing so inspired a generation of composers to create a virtuoso repertoire characterised by blazing compositional audacity and extremity." James Weeks, Tempo Magazine

For over thirty years Christopher Redgate has specialised in contemporary repertoire and has performed across Europe as well as the USA, China and Australia. A three year Arts and Humanities Research Council Fellowship (2009-2012) at the Royal Academy of Music enabled him to re-think the key-work of the oboe and, in collaboration with Howarth of London a new instrument was developed: the Howarth-Redgate 21st Century Oboe. He now performs exclusively on this instrument. As a performer he has developed significantly several aspects of oboe technique; leading him to a re-evaluation of a number of performance practices. His concerts usually include solo improvisations, which allow him to further explore the more extreme areas of the oboe. Many composers have written for him including Michael Finnissy, Brian Ferneyhough, Richard Barrett, Sam Hayden, Roger Redgate, Edwin Roxburgh, Christopher Fox, James Clarke, Paul Archbold, Dorothy Ker, Michael Young, Fabrice Fitch, David Gorton, Rob Keeley, Joe Cutler, Edward Cowie, James Weeks and Gwyn Pritchard.



Christopher is also active as a teacher and gives regular composer workshops and oboe masterclasses at colleges and universities around the world. He has contributed articles to *Contemporary Music Review* and to many of the professional double reed journals. He is currently writing a book – *21st Century Oboe* and contributing chapters to several others.

His current performing interests include developing repertoire for the new instrument, exploring improvisation in a variety of performance settings and developing a repertoire of music for oboe and laptop computer.

Redgate studied at Chethams' School of Music and at the Royal Academy of Music where he was a prize-winner. His professional career began with several prizes in international competitions.

Ensemble *Exposé* is a professional ensemble dedicated to the performance of new and experimental music. It was formed in 1984 by the composers Richard Barrett, Roger Redgate and Michael Finnissy and has since established a reputation for its commitment to presenting the most challenging of contemporary music. The ensemble has assembled an international membership of virtuoso musicians and a repertoire whose power and directness is matched by its lack of intellectual compromise. The group has given extensive concerts and broadcasts throughout Europe and has appeared at many of the major festivals of new music in France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Sweden and the USA.

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.