

OUR Recordings



**The Percussion Universe of Axel Borup-Jørgensen
Performed by Gert Mortensen
And featuring Percurama percussion Ensemble; Tim Fredriksen
(viola); Duo Crossfire; Michala Petri (recorder); DNSO Brass Quintet**

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Tracklisting

Solo Opus 88*; Music for Percussion and viola Opus 18; La Primavera Opus 97*; Periphrasis Opus 156;
Winter Music Opus 113.1*

* World Premiere Recording

Issued on behalf of **OUR Recordings** (www.ourrecordings.com)
by **Music & Media Consulting Limited** (www.musicandmediaconsulting.com)
3 Cypress Close, Doddington, Cambridgeshire, UK PE15 0LE
Tel/Fax: 01354-740847 Mobile: 07774-426966 E-Mail: john@musicandmediaconsulting.com

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Product & Repertoire Information

For many listeners, the name of Axel Borup-Jørgensen may come as a new discovery, and yet during his long and productive creative life (with more than 180 opus number in his catalogue), he was a seminal figure in contemporary Danish musical life and the recipient of a number of the country's most distinguished awards, including the Carl Nielsen Prize and the Wilhelm Hansen Prize.

Borup-Jørgensen considered himself a self-taught composer; while being thoroughly "modern" in outlook; his music is organic, expressionist, aphoristic – even "painterly," always embracing the sheer sensual beauty of the musical tone. He was a meticulous modernist who followed his own distinctive path. His works exude intense nature mysticism, at one moment tracing the skeletal outlines of barren trees, and blinding sunbursts, or a storm at sea in the next.

The five works presented here - including three world premiere recordings - span the most important period of the composer's artistic development, from Music for percussion + viola Opus 18 of 1956 to his cathartic Periphrasis Opus 156, (first version, 1977) and all feature the full array of percussion instruments found in 20th century music; skin, metal and wood, everything from small bells to a gong one metre in diameter are employed, to bring Borup-Jørgensen's exquisitely crafted universe of sounds to life.

Live videos for all 5 pieces are available on OUR Recordings YouTube Channel

Artist Information

Standing at the centre of this universe is Gert Mortensen, percussion professor at the Royal Danish Academy of Music, one of the world's leading scholars and performers of music for percussion. Mortensen has performed throughout Europe, Africa, North and South America and Asia combining elements of avant garde performance art and ethno-musicology to create a compelling concert experience. Mortensen's artistry is perfectly matched by ensemble partners representing some of Denmark's greatest musicians, including the incomparable Michala Petri (recorder), Tim Frederiksen (viola), The Percurama Percussion Ensemble, the Danish National Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet and his regular duo partner, Prof. Qiao Jia Jia (Duo Crossfire).

Further Information

This CD will be fully serviced to press and advertising will include the main classical music magazines. Further advertising is planned in due course. For a review copy and any further information, please contact John Cronin at Music & Media Consulting.