

Dr. Joseph Sonnabend: A Musical Journey Reflecting a Life of Compassion and Innovation

Renowned AIDS researcher and clinician Dr. Joseph Sonnabend, who was known for his groundbreaking work in HIV/AIDS research, had a hidden facet of his extraordinary life – as a composer. Despite his illustrious medical career, Joseph Sonnabend's passion for composition remained largely concealed from the public eye. However, with this album, we are invited into his world of instrumental and chamber works, showcasing his exceptional talent and profound musical sensibility.

The collection of pieces featured on offers a glimpse into Dr. Sonnabend's rich musical landscape. From piano solos to chamber works, each composition bears the mark of his deep appreciation for chromatic melodies and harmony, influenced by composers such as Alban Berg and Arnold Schoenberg.

Collaborator Dr Andrew Toovey, who played a pivotal role in bringing Dr. Sonnabend's compositions to life, reflects on the process: "Working with Joseph on his compositions was certainly a fascinating journey for both of us." Together, they meticulously curated a selection of works, refining unfinished pieces and even commissioning new ones, resulting in a cohesive representation of the Sonnabend soundworld.

Listeners can expect to be delighted by the diverse range of compositions, each offering a unique musical experience. Highlights include the Piano Trio, which weaves a chromatic melodic line throughout its entirety, and "Fluctuations," a mesmerizing solo violin piece that oscillates between reflective and virtuosic passages.

In addition to instrumental works, the album features poignant vocal pieces such as the Three Songs for soprano and piano accompaniment, which set a collection of haiku poetry to melodic and emotive music, creating a deeply resonant listening experience.

Reflecting on his late-in-life debut as a composer, Dr. Sonnabend's journey comes full circle, encompassing a lifetime of compassion, innovation, and artistic expression. His compositions serve not only as a testament to his musical talent but also as a poignant reminder of his profound response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, which he tirelessly battled throughout his career.

This album is not only a celebration of Dr. Sonnabend's musical legacy but also a tribute to his unwavering commitment to humanity. As listeners embark on discovering this music, they are invited to experience the depth of emotion and the enduring legacy of a remarkable individual.

Dr. Joseph Sonnabend (1933-2021) was a pioneering AIDS researcher and clinician, widely respected for his compassionate approach to patient care and his groundbreaking contributions to HIV/AIDS research. In addition to his medical career, Dr. Sonnabend was a prolific composer, whose debut album, "Thoughts and Programme Notes," offers a glimpse into his remarkable musical talent and creative vision.



RELEASE DATE: June 14th, 2024

Marketing Points

- Premier recordings
- Pioneering figure in HIV/AIDS research
- Highly respected performers
- Supported by the Royal Academy of Music
- Recorded in London 2023
- Album duration 63:08
- Detailed programme notes
- Preview on Youtube
- Available on CD and in HD digital audio



Marketing support: ads in Fanfare, Gramophone, BBC Music, MusicWeb and Musical Opinion; extensive promo/review copy mailing; Regular posts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and artist social media accounts. YouTube sample track. Sharing of DSP links.




Order #: DDX 21128
Barcode: (0) 809730112829
Artists: Emma Tring, soprano
 Charles Mutter, violin
 Antony Gray, piano
 Morgan Hayes, piano
 Cora-Marina Lordache, violin
 Idlir Shyti, cello

Price Point: standard full price (US SRP \$17.99)
Label: Divine Art
Genre: Classical/Chamber Music
Format: CD; digital download & streaming



WORKS LISTING:

1.	Piano Trio No. 1 <i>Charles Mutter (violin), Idlir Shyti (cello), Antony Gray (piano)</i>	10:50
2.	April <i>Antony Gray (piano)</i>	2:35
3.	Mirage <i>Morgan Hayes (piano)</i>	3:51
4.	The Summer Before Last <i>Idlir Shyti (cello), Antony Gray (piano)</i>	9:35
5.	Fluctuations <i>Charles Mutter (violin)</i>	10:44
6.	Song 1	2:37
7.	Song 3	3:07
8.	Song 5 <i>Emma Tring (soprano), Antony Gray (piano)</i>	3:22
9.	Passacaglia <i>Idlir Shyti (cello), Antony Gray (piano)</i>	7:32
10.	Synergism <i>Charles Mutter (violin), Cora-Marina Lordache (violin)</i>	8:49


Song 1
<https://youtu.be/8W2aYU6taxg>