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8.557678

Playing Time
68:41

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The music of the contemporary Chinese composer and pianist Gao Ping, now resident in New Zealand, draws its inspiration from his native folklore, the oral tradition of story-telling familiar from his childhood in Sichuan, and Chinese poetry. The composer himself writes: 'I have always thought of myself as a story-teller of sorts, but in place of words I use music.' The second of the *Two Soviet Love Songs for Vocalizing Pianist*, a hugely entertaining homage to Shostakovich, interweaves the Russian folk song *Katyusha* with fragments of the *Scherzo* of the Russian composer's *Tenth Symphony* and Youman's *Tea for Two*.

GAO PING

(b. 1970)

Shuo Shu Ren ('The Storyteller') 28:12 for Flute, Oboe, Violin, Viola, Violoncello and Harp (2001)

- | | | |
|---|--------------|------|
| 1 | Overture | 2:35 |
| 2 | Monologue I | 3:02 |
| 3 | Tale I | 6:11 |
| 4 | Monologue II | 3:26 |
| 5 | Tale II | 8:37 |
| 6 | Epilogue | 4:21 |

Distant Voices for Piano (1999) 14:06

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|------|
| 7 | Nostalgia | 4:22 |
| 8 | Love Song from Kangdin | 2:46 |
| 9 | Blue Flower | 6:58 |

Sonata for Cello and Piano No. 2 'Departure' (2001) 20:47

- | | | |
|----|----------------|------|
| 10 | I | 3:57 |
| 11 | II | 4:05 |
| 12 | III Intermezzo | 2:12 |
| 13 | IV | 6:11 |
| 14 | V | 4:23 |

Two Soviet Love Songs for Vocalizing Pianist (2003) 5:35

- | | | |
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| 15 | Evenings in suburban Moscow | 3:07 |
| 16 | Katyusha - homage to D. Shostakovich | 2:29 |

Ensemble Pyramide • Gao Ping, Piano

Recorded at the Church of Marthalen, Switzerland, 14th-15th April 2005 (tracks 1-6);
Auditorium of the Banque de Luxembourg, Luxembourg, 23rd-24th November 2004 (tracks 7-16)
Producer and Balance Engineer: Andreas Ruge • Digital Editing and Mastering: Andreas Ruge
Executive Producers: Markus Brönnimann, Andrea Kowalczyk
Special thanks to the Banque de Luxembourg, the Greater Cincinnati Chinese Music Society,
the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, and the MacDowell Colony for Artists
Cover Image: *New Dimension* by Ulrich Osterloh (www.osterlohart.de) (Courtesy of the artist)