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Ozella Music | Schloss Hamborn 20 | D-33178 Borcheln | Germany | fon +49(0)5251-38509 fax +49(0)5251-388909
email mail@ozellamusic.com | www.ozellamusic.com
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Symphonic Solo Experience

Audio CD



Kari Ikonen

Impressions, Improvisations and Compositions

In August of 2019, Kari Ikonen found himself with a month of free time. Spontaneously, he recorded a full album at his home. His only companion: His beloved Steinway.

The influence of painter Wassily Kandinsky inspired Ikonen to write some of his most monumental pieces. To be able to play the Arabic modi he had in mind, he invented the "Maqiano", a small device expanding the interval range of the piano.

And so, what could have turned into just another solo piano album ended up a symphonic experience.

- 1 IMPROLOGUE
- 2 MAQTU'AH ON MAQAM RAST
- 3 PINOCCHIO
- 4 RAUSCH
- 5 TAQSIM ON MAQAM SABA
- 6 BLUE
- 7 VIOLET
- 8 KOTO
- 9 OPPRESSIVE
- 10 THREE-CHORD BLUES
- 11 TRANCE ORIENTAL
- 12 THE EVERGREEN EARTH

- 1:27
- 4:24
- 3:15
- 1:54
- 4:45
- 2:26
- 1:23
- 5:00
- 1:32
- 2:24
- 4:48
- 5:22

Musicians

KARI IKONEN: piano, with and without Maqiano* and other preparations

All compositions by Kari Ikonen except Pinocchio composed by Wayne Shorter and arranged by Kari Ikonen.

Published by Edition Ozella.

Produced by Kari Ikonen.

RECORDED August 2019 in Helsinki, at the home of the artist, by the artist.

MIXED September 2019 by Johannes Lundberg in Gothenburg at Studio Epidemin.

Mastered by Hans-Jörg Maucksch at Pauler Acoustics, Germany.

COVER PICTURE: Blue (detail) by Wassily Kandinsky, 1922.

Norton Simon Museum, The Blue Four Galka Scheyer Collection, used with permission.

COVER DESIGN by Nina Sangenstedt.

Artist Kari Ikonen
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