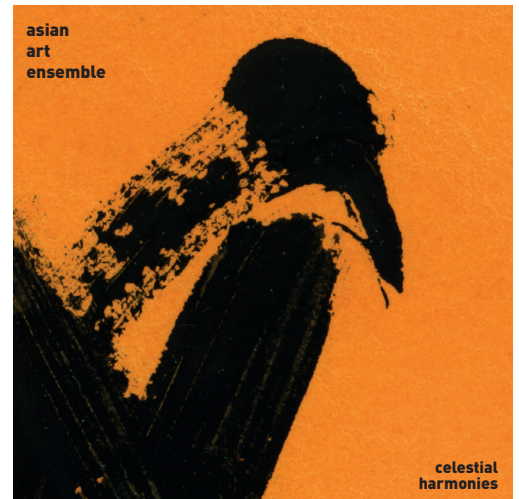


celestial harmonies

AsianArt Ensemble
Music from Korea, China,
Japan and Germany
Musicians from Korea, China,
Germany and Venezuela
Recorded in Berlin
Celestial Harmonies 13291-2
UPC 0 1371 13291 2 4



The AsianArt Ensemble was founded in 2007 on the occasion of a concert in the Munich Musica Viva series. Its members were a group of Asian musicians living in various parts of the world. The concert in the Villa Stuck was the opening concert of the 2007 season and included items of ancient Asian music and newer compositions, played on the traditional instruments of Japan, Korea and China.

The formal launch of the AsianArt Ensemble took place in Berlin in 2009 in the Academy of Fine Arts on the Pariser Platz, this time with musicians mainly resident in Berlin. The revised concept envisaged the ongoing co-operation of musicians on traditional Asian instruments from Japan, Korea and China with European and Latin American musicians; this long-term collaboration was to include composers and to result in a cross-fertilization of different musical cultures in the field of contemporary music. An award from the Berlin Cultural Senate in 2010 led to the ensemble's first CD recording, a co-production between RBB Kulturradio and Celestial Harmonies. In the same year the ensemble, together with CHUNG Il-Ryun, was awarded a commission by the Senate, the government of the city state of Berlin.

The debut recording—within just a few weeks of its release—was awarded the prestigious German award "Preis der deutschen Schallplattenkritik" in the contemporary music category, reasoning as follows: "A program that's persuasively put together with works of Far-Eastern and German provenance! The musicians of this ensemble, founded in 2007 in Munich, succeed in developing a culture of astonishing interplay. Whilst they let intonation and vocabulary, colour and rhythmic energy flow into a new whole, the listener might just come to feel that time and space have become irrelevant."

Compositions by
CHUNG Il-Ryun
Volker Blumenthaler
HOSOKAWA Toshio
Manfred Stahnke
LEE Myung-Sun
Xu Shuya

AsianArt Ensemble:
Yoo Hong, Daegŭm
CHUNG Il-Ryun, Changgu
Wu Wei, Sheng
Matthias Leupold, Violin
Juan Gonzalez, Violin
Yoo Chang-Yun, Viola
SUNG Sohyun, Cello

RECORDED IN 2011 AT THE CHAMBER MUSIC HALL
OF RBB, BERLIN
PRODUCED BY PETER RIXEN
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: ECKART RAHN



kulturradio^{rbb}

