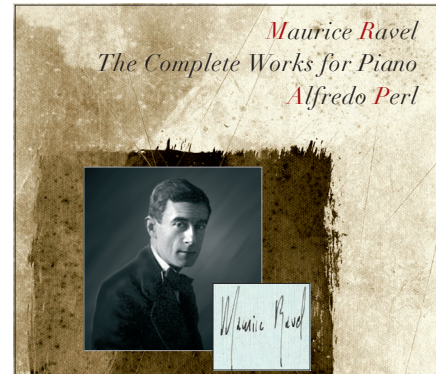


celestial harmonies



Maurice Ravel
The Complete Works for Piano
Alfredo Perl
Celestial Harmonies
14306-2 (Double CD)
UPC 0 1371 14306 2 2



When Alfredo Perl recorded Schubert's final Sonata D 960 for Celestial Harmonies, Martin Wilkening wrote in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* that he had achieved something "substantial and significant"; he concluded that "anyone searching for a reading of convincing integrity and an instinct for the decisive details need look no further than Alfredo Perl" and that Perl's Schubert reveals "impressive intelligence" in its interpretation.

Peter McCallum wrote in the *Sydney Morning Herald* about Alfredo Perl's Beethoven recital in Sydney in 2003: "Alfredo Perl is a pianist who nurtures, colours and characterises each phrase, each paragraph, each work. His conception of musical ideas is always individual, his musical thought sincere, and he delivers them with sustained concentration and artistic vigour ... his playing was heartfelt, truthful with a sense of pure dedication to clarity of musical expression."

The piano works of Maurice Ravel are another particularly challenging area of the repertoire, with high technical, intellectual and emotional demands on the interpreter. The music requires a supreme sense of clarity, structure and narrative to realise Ravel's vision. As well as a large number of transcriptions, Ravel left around two and a half hours of music primarily intended for piano, ranging from only seemingly naive children's pieces to music of supreme mysticism and transcendence. Amongst these works are some of the highest challenges a pianist can face, and they are ideally suited to reflect the broad range of Perl's talent.

The week-long recording took place in the acoustically renowned chamber music hall of Radio Bremen, on a superb Steinway – Perl had preferred a Bösendorfer for his Schubert recordings. At the conclusion, Perl said—with the self-confident modesty of someone who knew what had been accomplished—that the listener would not be disappointed. So be it.

RECORDED IN 2011 AT SENDESAAL BREMEN
PRODUCED BY RENATE WOLTER-SEEVERS
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: ECKART RAHN
PIANO TECHNICIAN: GERD FINKENSTEIN
HAMBURG STEINWAY D

