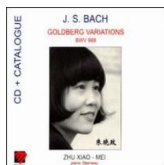


Johann Sebastian Bach - Goldberg Variations, BWV988 (Zhu Xiao-Mei)

Written by bluesever

Saturday, 02 June 2012 17:17 -

Johann Sebastian Bach - Goldberg Variations, BWV988 (Zhu Xiao-Mei)



01. Aria 02. Variation 1 03. Variation 2 04. Variation 3 05. Variation 4 06.
Variation 5 07. Variation 6 08. Variation 7 09. Variation 8 10. Variation 9 11.
Variation 10 12. Variation 11 13. Variation 12 14. Variation 13 15. Variation 14
16. Variation 15 17. Variation 16 18. Variation 17 19. Variation 18 20. Variation
19 21. Variation 20 22. Variation 21 23. Variation 22 24. Variation 23 25.
Variation 24 26. Variation 25 27. Variation 26 28. Variation 27 29. Variation 28
30. Variation 29 31. Variation 30 32. Aria Repeat Zhu Xiao-Mei – piano

The Goldberg Variations have had so many brilliant and famous performances. They fall along the whole range from formalistic, text-true to more interpretive playing. Here, pianist and teacher Zhu Xiao-Mei gives us an ethereal performance that is, remarkably, powerful without being overpowering, insightful yet completely self-effacing. It's difficult connecting modern performances to how we might have experienced the same works as they were originally heard, not just due to differences in musical instruments and style, but also to differences in listener experience and expectations. Yet, this performance creates a strong, imaginative, almost tangible sense of the origins of the piece, the sense of following a drifting stream to its source. I think anyone owning this CD will come to treasure it. --- Daniel Coverdale "emaddog"

«C'est dans la paix et la sérénité que Zhu Xiao-Mei aborde les Goldberg, avec un sens du chant déjà affirmé dans la belle Aria et que l'on retrouve des la première variation et dans bien d'autres (Var. 7, 15, 21 ou 25). La sobriété de son jeu et la limpidité de son toucher, avec une main gauche toujours présente et prompte à tisser sa propre mélodie, exploite les possibilités de couleurs offertes par le piano, sans jamais chercher à imiter le clavecin. Une version sensible et intelligente.» ---Adélad'de de Place, Diapason

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