

PHILIP GLASS

PIANO WORKS

JENNY LIN



STEINWAY & SONS



JENNY LIN is one of the most respected young pianists today, admired for her adventurous programming and charismatic stage presence. She has been acclaimed for her "remarkable technical command" and "a gift for melodic flow" by The New York Times. The Washington Post praises "Lin's confident fingers...spectacular technique..." "...surely one of the most interesting pianists in America right now..." and Gramophone Magazine has hailed her as "an exceptionally sensitive pianist." Her orchestral engagements have included the American Symphony Orchestra, NDR and SWR German Radio orchestras, and Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della RAI. Her concerts have taken her to Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center's Great Performers, SF Jazz, MoMA, Stanford LIVE, and the National Gallery of Art. She has appeared at Festivals such as Mostly Mozart, BAM's Next Wave, Spoleto USA, Kings Place London, Chopin Festival Austria, and Schleswig-Holstein Festival Germany.

Since 2000, Jenny's discography includes more than 30 recordings on Steinway & Sons, Hänssler Classic, eOne, BIS, New World, and Albany Records. She is also the central figure in *Cooking for Jenny* by Elemental Films, a

musical documentary portraying her journey to Spain. Other media appearances include CBS Sunday Morning, NPR Performance Today, and *Speaking for Myself*, a film about Manhattan as seen through the eyes of eight contemporary artists by filmmaker Bert Shapiro. Born in Taiwan and raised in Austria, Jenny studied at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna, the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore and the Fondazione Internazionale per il pianoforte in Como, Italy. She holds a bachelor's degree in German literature from The Johns Hopkins University.

In 2019 Jenny released the complete piano music of Artur Schnabel on Steinway & Sons. Since 2014, she has joined Philip Glass in his ongoing world tour of his Etudes. Jenny is a Steinway Artist.

To put a point on it, very few pianists have the insight of having toured extensively with **PHILIP GLASS**. Beginning in 2014 that's exactly what Jenny Lin has done. Following her much acclaimed recording of Glass's Complete Piano Etudes in 2017 is this new album, *Glass Piano Works*, featuring the core of Glass's best known works for piano.

The program begins with "Opening" from *Glassworks*. It was a piece appropriately named because it opened the composer's first album on CBS (later Sony) in 1982, and the piece served its purpose as an opening to Glass's music for a wider public. Glass's deep sense of a marriage between harmony and rhythm, and how to make that language a dramatic language is on full display. In the five movement *Metamorphosis*, Glass reused some of his music from the film *The Thin Blue Line* out of a need to create more solo piano works for him to perform on tour as a pianist. The piece eventually became a central feature of Glass's solo piano concerts containing a lot of the hallmarks of his music at that time.

Mad Rush (1979) and *Distant Figure - Passacaglia for Solo Piano* (2017) form a kind of nostalgic diptych. *Mad Rush* is perhaps Glass's most popular piece of piano music. It was written for the Dalai Lama's first public address in New York City at St. John the Divine in the fall of 1979. *Distant Figure* is Glass's most recent piece for solo piano and shares a mood, tonality, and length with its predecessor. However in *Mad Rush* one is given the sense that music is timeless and that the journey can go on forever, whereas *Distant Figure* is a "late piece" and signals that this is a piece about the end of a journey, the inevitable winding down of the eternal machine.

Philip Glass was never a virtuoso, neither does this music generally call for a virtuoso pianist. So it's odd that with so many recordings of this repertoire, it's a rare occasion that the music is performed with the correct amount of what's written on the page. This is where interpreters like Jenny Lin come in. By osmosis and proximity to Glass over the years, Lin has come to inhabit the soul and best performance practices in Glass's music. Her result, as you can hear on this new recording, is a performance of mystery and humanity.

PHILIP GLASS | PIANO WORKS

Recorded 2018 – 2019 at Steinway Hall, New York City.

Producer: Jon Feidner

Engineer: Lauren Sclafani

Assistant Engineer: Melody Nieuw Hwang

Editing: Renée Oakford

Production Assistant: Renée Oakford

Mixing and Mastering: Daniel Shores

Equipment: Pyramix using Merging Technologies Horus Converters;
mixed and mastered through Merging Technologies Horus Converter

Microphones: DPA 4006A, Schoeps MC6/MK2

Executive Producers: Eric Feidner, Jon Feidner

Art Direction: Jackie Fugere

Design: Cover to Cover Design, Anilda Carrasquillo

Piano Technician: Lauren Sclafani

Piano: Steinway Model D # 607799 (New York)

PHILIP GLASS (B. 1937)

PIANO WORKS

JENNY LIN, PIANO

- 1 Opening 6:23
- 2 Metamorphosis One 5:21
- 3 Metamorphosis Two 6:32
- 4 Metamorphosis Three 3:35
- 5 Metamorphosis Four 6:01
- 6 Metamorphosis Five 5:27
- 7 Modern Love Waltz 3:28
- 8 Distant Figure -
Passacaglia 11:33
- 9 Mad Rush 13:59

Playing Time: 62:24



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