

OUARTERLY

CDs



Flute Mystery Emily Beynon © 2009 Norway Lindberg Lyd AS

Music by Norwegian composer Fred Jonny Berg is featured on this CD. The impressive quality and clarity of the recording immediately stands out, portraying Berg's expressive and rich language in the best possible way. Berg's

music has a distinctly filmic feel, with a sense of enchantment that would not be out of place in something like *The Lord of the Rings*. In the title work, featuring flute and harp with orchestra, a fast-moving interlude follows a beautifully tranquil introduction, with flute dissonances and flutter-tongued notes creating tension. Dedicated to Sir James Galway, this piece also comes in

a version for alto flute. Three orchestral works follow. The dramatic tone poem "Warning Zero" makes particular use of wind and brass, while "Pastorale," a bi-tonal work, builds on the tensions created between the two keys. The dramatic film score for *Vicino alla Montagna* follows, with its strong portrayal of the Norwegian mountainous landscape and forces of nature. The final work is the flute concerto, premiered by Emily Beynon in London in February 2009. This is a melodic and flowing work, full of rich orchestral colors and a sense of tranquillity. The flute solo in "Reminiscence" (the concerto's second movement) displays Beynon's world-class musicianship, with stunning tone quality and wonderfully sensitive phrasing. The dramatic short third movement features high-register outcries from the flute. Tranquility is finally restored in the final movement.

—Carla Rees

(Editor's Note: This CD was a Grammy award nominee.)