

## Los Alegres

### Worlds Beyond/A Trip Down Memory Lane

*Music by Daniel Schnyder and Sergey Tsoy*

The Orchestra 06/2024 - Daniel Knödler

What do orchestral musicians do in their spare time? Obviously music! Of course, some of it is very different from the music they play in theatres and concert halls. Anja Bachmann, Anna Pyrozhkova, José Luis Gutiérrez, Alexis González, Michael Winkler and Sergey Tsoy have obviously taken a liking to jazz, especially in its swinging and fast-paced form. Whether the compositions originate from the "E" or the "U" in music is obviously less important - the Los Alegres ensemble with musicians from the Mittelsächsische Philharmonie Freiberg asserts itself in both environments with virtuosity and joy of playing.

Daniel Schnyder's five-movement suite Worlds Beyond projects classical inspiration into the jazz format. The three protagonists Anja Bachmann (saxophone), Alexis González (trombone) and José Luis Gutiérrez (piano) bring a good dose of swing, plenty of technique for the fast-paced bebop and a somnambulistically confident interplay to a recording that is in no way inferior to the composer's virtuoso recording from a few years ago.

From time to time, Michael Winkler discreetly contributes further contours on the percussion, but the fast movements in particular shine with instrumental perfection, which in this form, especially in the saxophone and trombone, is certainly not a basic requirement for symphonic orchestral service. This is all the more significant as Daniel Schnyder does not limit himself to a few short aphorisms à la Schulhoff or Weill, but rather formulates his musical thoughts. Los Alegres turn this modern, well-structured chamber music, far removed from any improvisation, into a brilliant ride through the octaves.

The second suite on this well-recorded CD is a little more relaxed, but musically equally spotless. However, the Freiberg orchestra not only makes excellent music, it also composes - in the person of Sergey Tsoy, the second deputy concertmaster, who has musically summarised memories of his student days in the USA in seven entertaining movements entitled A Trip Down Memory Lane.

Sergey Tsoy's Opus 30 plays confidently with musical forms such as cha-cha-cha or tango and offers the five instrumentalists room for swinging development. The two wind instruments continue

their brilliant performance from the previous work, José Luis Gutiérrez plays with even more presence and Anna Pyrozhkova switches quickly between solo and rhythm section with her cello, which Michael Winkler again leads with aplomb.