

## ZOFO SELECT PRESS QUOTES

**"...jaw-dropping awesome!"** - SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

**"What happens when you sit two internationally acclaimed solo pianists down at one piano? ...you get something energetically and electrifyingly out of this world."**

- BACHTRACK

It was clear from this performance alone that ZOFO have talent and artistry in abundance and over the coming years, they will surely add to their GRAMMY Award nominations, prestigious competition achievements and distinguished concert venue debuts.

**"ZOFO's feisty performances surge with athletic precision, always mindful of how much joy there is in the music."**

- WASHINGTON POST

**"ZOFO delivers the recital with technical elan and expressive spontaneity"**

- BALTIMORE SUN

**"There was something sensual and almost erotic about watching these two pianists weave upper limbs while performing so seamlessly as one."**

- SAN FRANCISCO CLASSICAL VOICE

In five years of existence the dynamic piano duo ZOFO has racked up two GRAMMY nominations and a competition win. Perhaps more impressively, they've given 11 world premieres of commissioned works. They brought the latest of these, by William Bolcom, to Morrison Artists Series at SFSU on Sunday afternoon, while dazzling the audience in a program of contemporary works. All told, ZOFO has chemistry that makes musical and dramatic sparks ferociously fly.

**"Believe me, with the rapturous noise that these two make, with infinite gradations of perfectly placed dynamics, you will experience the piano in a whole new way."**

- AUDIOPHILE AUDITION

This astounding album completely took me by surprise. Normally I am averse—or at least *highly suspicious*—of piano four-hands, but ZOFO, or better yet, pianists Eva-Maria Zimmermann and Keisuke Nakagoshi knocked my socks off with this recording.

***"The (Terry Riley) birthday offering of the four-hand piano duo ZOFO, which was a guest of the Kronos festival, is a dazzling disc of arrangements of Riley works.***

- LOS ANGELES TIMES

***"...vibrant, beautifully blended playing"***

- SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

The dynamic Bay Area piano duo of Keisuke Nakagoshi and Eva-Maria Zimmermann follows up its GRAMMY-nominated "Mind Meld" with a new CD marked by brilliant sound and a suave deployment of four hands at one piano.

***"Every recital they give never fails to astonish, but just as important is that every program they prepare has at least one item that never fails to amuse."***

- SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

The composition that best serves up astonishment and amusement in equal measure is most likely "Let's Play a Duet!" by Tomohiro Moriyama, (with its) intricate choreography of hand and arm crossings.

***"ZOFO players Eva-Maria Zimmerman and Keisuke Nakagoshi offer tour de force performances that convey the music with visceral impact, all captured in vivid recorded sound. If you like pianos, great playing, and engaging music, you owe it to yourself to hear this excellent disc."***

- CLASSICS TODAY

***"Four-hands-one-piano performances are a dime a dozen, but not the ZOFO way...in this CD their unusual combination of bravura and depth is obvious from the get-go...Simply gorgeous."***

- SAN FRANCISCO CLASSICAL VOICE

The pianists have their distinct voices, but the combination is an integrated whole, similar to a great orchestra's fusion of individual instruments.

***"The sound quality is excellent, spacious and clear. Recommended."***

- FANFARE MAGAZINE

The best parts of this program are the pieces originally intended for the medium. Debussy's languorous *Épigraphs Antiques* are ideal for this duo, which responds winningly to the subtle colors and delicacy of the writing. I would go so far as to say this is the finest recording I know of this sensual work.