

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On October 25, 2019
SONO LUMINUS releases
JENNY LIN

The Etudes Project, Volume One: ICEBERG

featuring Lin's performance of ten new etudes and written by the composers of ICEBERG New Music, paired with ten existing concert etudes by Chopin, Unsuk Chin, Debussy, Philip Glass, and others.



"No one who has heard the latest recording by the pianist Jenny Lin ... will need to be told that Ms. Lin has a gift for melodic flow." - The New York Times

"Pianist Jenny Lin gave a recital...that was as thoughtfully conceived as it was beautifully executed. ...deeply felt performances." - The Washington Post

"ICEBERG's roster of decidedly dissimilar composers is one of its greatest strengths... I went home after the concert feeling happy and intellectually sated." – I Care If You Listen

On Friday, October 25, 2019, Sono Luminus releases *The Etudes Project, Volume One: ICEBERG*, an album of twenty concert etudes – including ten new works from the noted composer collective ICEBERG New Music – performed by the celebrated pianist Jenny Lin. On the same day, the complete score of the new works from *The Etudes Project, Volume One: ICEBERG* will be published by NewMusicShelf, and Ms. Lin will perform a concert of all ten new works (as well as selected other works from the album) at the National Opera Center in New York City.

Jenny Lin explains The Etudes Project's genesis: *"I have always been fascinated by the intricate history of piano études, and how throughout written music it has continued to be one of the most important genres in keyboard*

literature. How did we get from Bach's Clavier-Übung to Philip Glass's Piano Etudes? And where is the form going now? I hope to explore these questions through The Etudes Project."

Rather than provide a specific étude prompt for each member of ICEBERG, Lin gave them free rein to challenge her technique. Then, after the pieces were written, she paired each new work with an existing "partner" étude from the Western canon (including works by Messiaen, Glass, Ligeti, Unsuk Chin, Debussy, Ruth Crawford Seeger, and others) with which she, and each composer, found a kindred musical relationship.

ICEBERG New Music's Alex Burtzos explains, "*Jenny and the ICEBERG member composers have gone back and forth for over a year about every aspect of this album - from specific technical questions about the pieces themselves to questions regarding their companion repertoire works and ordering in the finished program. What listeners will hear in the album is the result of 11 artists thinking deeply about the étude as a concept, and their personal places in the ongoing history of the genre.*

In the 10 new works, the ICEBERG composers explore everything from aleatoric atmospheres to Chicago house music, forcing Jenny to demonstrate her immense virtuosity in a variety of different styles. This, we think, is a new approach to designing concerts (and albums), one that challenges artists and rewards listeners by demonstrating the depth and breadth of contemporary composition."

Featuring insightful liner notes from music writer Steve Smith, and a sonically intimate recording mastered by Daniel Shore, this album provides a fascinating, engaging celebration of and journey through a technical, poetic form for the piano.

Jenny Lin

The Etudes Project, Volume One: ICEBERG

DSL-92236

PRODUCER: Dan Merceruio

RECORDING, MIXING & MASTERING ENGINEER: Daniel Shores

RECORDING TECHNICIAN: Allison Noah

EDITING ENGINEERS: Dan Merceruio, Daniel Shores

PIANO TECHNICIAN: John Veitch

PIANO: Steinway Model D #590904 (New York)

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Mastered with Merging Technologies Hapi. Recorded in DXD at 24 bit, 352.8kHz.

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Accretion (2018) Max Grafe 2:19
Quatre Etudes de rythme I "Ile de feu" (1949) Olivier Messiaen 2:22

Etude No. 1 "Corona" (2018) Victor Baez 2:43
Etude No. 6 "Grains" (2000) Unsuk Chin 4:16

To the Convergence (2018) Yu-Chun Chien 2:26
Etude for Piano I "2 Lines" (2011) Toshio Hosokawa 3:45

Etude for Melancholy Robots III "Trains" (2018) Will Healy 3:54
Etude No. 1 "Désordre" (1985) György Ligeti 2:31

Etude No. 1 "Unleashed" (2018) Derek Cooper 2:29
Study in Mixed Accents (1930) Ruth Crawford Seeger 1:14

"Lilac" (from Flower Catalogue) (2018) Stephanie Ann Boyd 3:22
Etude No. 11 "Pour les arpèges composés" (1915) Claude Debussy 4:56

Walk (2018) Drake Andersen 2:36
Etude Op. 8 No. 2 (1894) Alexander Scriabin 2:16

Obstinata 1: Barbed Wire (2018) Harry Stafylakis 4:18
Etude-Tableaux Op. 33 No. 4 in D Minor (1911) Sergei Rachmaninoff 3:36

Knuckles (2018) Jonathan Russ 3:31
Etude No. 13 (1994) Philip Glass 3:57

Should the Wide World Roll Away (2018) Alex Burtzos 3:36
Etude Op. 10 No. 4 (1830) Frederic Chopin 2:15

Identifying affinities among old and new music, and among familiar and unknown pieces, is a knack Lin has demonstrated again and again throughout her career—and it's part of what makes her not only a persuasive interpreter, but also an invaluable guide and companion. Stated simply: you are in extraordinarily sure hands, here.

—Steve Smith

ICEBERG New Music is a collective of ten young composers based in New York City. Their mission is to promote the idea that substance, not surface, is the heart of music creation and perception. The collective's members hail from different schools of thought and cultivate radically different sounds – from musical theater and indie rock to avant-garde sounds and electronic installations – but their contrasting musical languages belie a shared emphasis on structure and depth of meaning. When the ICEBERG composers write for the same ensemble or present their works as part of a joint project, the result is a glimpse into the ever-widening possibilities of art music in the twenty-first century.

ICEBERG is committed to excellence of craft, inclusiveness of style, and educational outreach on behalf of the new music community. They produce numerous events each season, partnering with some of the country's top ensembles to create programs that are innovative, diverse, and listener-oriented. In demand nationally and internationally, ICEBERG has presented concerts and public-oriented educational workshops across North America. In 2018, ICEBERG unveiled its Young Composer Award, a scholarship fund aimed at pre-collegiate composers from underprivileged and underrepresented backgrounds. ICEBERG New Music is Drake Andersen, Victor Baez, Stephanie Ann Boyd, Alex Burtzos, Yu-Chun Chien, Derek Cooper, Max Grafe, Will Healy, Jonathan Russ, and Harry Stafylakis.

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 National Gallery of Art, appearing at Festivals such as Mostly Mozart, BAM’s Next Wave, Spoleto USA, Kings Place London, Chopin Festival Austria, and Schleswig-Holstein Festival Germany. Since 2014, she has joined Philip Glass in his ongoing world tour of his Etudes.

Jenny’s extensive discography includes critically acclaimed recordings on Steinway & Sons, Hänssler CLASSIC, eOne Records, BIS Records, Albany Records, and Sunrise Records. Since 2000, she has over thirty albums to her credit. A passionate advocate for education, Jenny created “Melody’s Mostly Musical Day,” a musical picture book for children following the adventures of an imaginative little girl from breakfast to bedtime, told in a collection of 26 classical piano works from Mozart to Gershwin. She is the central figure in *Cooking for Jenny* by Elemental Films, a musical documentary portraying her journey to the north of Spain and meeting with composer Javier López de Guereña for the preparation of the world premiere of his piano concerto ZAHARA.

Born in Taiwan and raised in Austria, Jenny studied with Noel Flores at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna, with Julian Martin at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, and with Dominique Weber in Geneva. She has also worked with Leon Fleisher, Richard Goode, and Blanca Uribe, and with Dimitri Bashkurov and Andreas Staier at the Fondazione Internazionale per il pianoforte in Como, Italy. She holds a bachelor’s degree in German Literature from Johns Hopkins University and currently resides in New York City. Jenny Lin is a Steinway Artist.

NewMusicShelf Anthologies of New Music is a bold, new publishing initiative aimed at bringing new and unknown composers and repertoire to student and professional performers alike. With an emphasis on works not found in the traditional publishing ecosystem, each volume is curated by performers who have a reputation for championing new music, with an eye toward selecting works with a range of styles and difficulties that are suitable for concert and recital performance.

With this innovative mode of publishing, NewMusicShelf advocates for self-published composers in a way previously unheard of in the realm of classical music: all composers retain full ownership of their work while earning a generous royalty on every sale.

For more information, visit:

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