

TAKE EFFECT

GEORGINA ISABEL ROSSI/SILVIE CHENG

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Mobili: Music For Viola And Piano From Chile

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The Chilean-American violist Georgina Isabel Rossi comes together with the award winning pianist Silvie Cheng on this first ever record devoted to Chilean music for viola. Pulling from 6 pieces that spans 5 decades, the pair put much heart and soulfulness into the endeavor, and the result is quite admirable.

The album starts with a pair of Rafael Díaz pieces, as “¿Habr  alguien que en sus manos sostenga este caer?” starts with amplified viola taking us on a 10 minute journey of quivering, sublime string acrobatics with no shortage of reverb, and “Al fondo de mi lejan a se asoma tu casa” follows with piano and viola interacting in beautiful, sometimes aching ways that are both orchestral and classical.

Deeper into the listen, David Cort s’ “Tololo”, one of the most current pieces, uses viola with a string orchestra to radiate warmth and adventurousness that occasionally gets abrasive and even haunting in its creative layering, while “Mobili op.63”, by Juan Orrego-Salas, comes in 4 movement that range from piano focused and graceful, to more jagged and even with a slow march atmosphere. Carlos Guastavino’s “El Sampedrino” exits the listen with Rossi and Cheng’s dynamic chemistry emitting a stirring, fascinating finish to a very accomplished listen.

The composer of the title work, Juan Orrego-Salas, passed away just before this album was recorded, and the effort is dedicated to his spirit. A tragic loss, Rossi and Cheng knew that this collaboration would need to honor his memory well, and the rich, meticulous and expressive project certainly does not disappoint.

