## JAZZ / ROCK / CLASSICAL / ALT

## Dorothy Hindman ★★★★

Tightly Wound: Music for Strings Innova

Born in 1966, Floridian Dorothy Hindman is among the generation of classical composers that have been impacted by the European/American classical tradition and post-1960s rock (including punk and grunge). She composes for "regular" instrumentation (piano, strings, sax, choirs, etc.) and electronic media (soundfiles, mobile phones, etc.) This two-CD set presents a fascinating cross-section of her music written for stringed instruments (violin, acoustic bass, guitar, etc.) and piano. Her music is mostly tonal (as opposed to atonal, which drives some people to the exits) and she employs dissonance judiciously. Hindman employs the structures and dynamics of old-school composers—Brahms, Copeland, Barber—and employs them in the language(s) of this century. Much of "Jerusalem Windows" is just as rapturous as the chamber music of Brahms or Dvorak. while "Monumenti" (for violin and cello) has some of the cyclic, insistent minimalist tension of Glass and Adams dusted with East European folk flavors. "Time Management" could be subtitled "Voyage to the Bottom of the Bass," as it shows just how much sound and emotion can be deeply, eerily coaxed from a single acoustic bass. Without any overt fusion moves, Hindman's music weds technique and syntax of classical music with the directness and impudence of rock. Highly recommended for rockers wishing to get their proverbial feet wet in post-20th century classical music and classical fans who think much post-Leonard Bernstein music sounds like stuff falling down a stairwell. (15 tracks, 135 min.) innova.mu

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