

Georg Ruby Piano Solo

...It's not about Don Quixote, but Georg Ruby is elusive. Or rather, Thomas Crown was elusive in the very successful film with Faye Dunaway and Steve McQueen (1968), for which Michel Legrand wrote "The Windmills of Your Mind". Ruby borrowed the Windmills for the title of his solo CD. The CD contains eleven pieces, four of which are not his, but that doesn't matter. He makes each piece he plays his own, and if some of the thoughts it contains were already recorded elsewhere, he combines them with his own and with others that are also already there. In the process, a very own, logical, variously determined and immensely precise story always emerges. Four pieces bear the series title "Metalog", i.e. they are, in a sense, compositions that reflect on their own genesis and try out different paths in the process. But "Schnecke Turtur", a piece by Wollie Kaiser, with whom Ruby has a lot in common, sounds so delicate and pointillistic-fragile with him, as if it were by Erik Satie, and Coleman's "Lonely Woman" simply remains abandoned at the end. Each piece seeks its own way to itself. The piano remains tonally classical and unalienated, only the touch is available for nuance. What Georg Ruby never does is to stage a conventional piano solo dramaturgy. He does not prelude, he does not increase tension and let it subside. He is in the music at every moment with equal intensity and attention, does not sort before and after, but insists on an uncompromising now.

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