Stimmung
KARLHEINZ STOCKHAUSEN

Theatre of Voices
Paul Hillier

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Grammy Award-winning conductor Paul Hillier revisits Stockhausen’s “Stimmung” and creates a new “Copenhagen” version for Theatre of Voices.

“STIMMUNG is certainly meditative music. Time is suspended. One listens to the interior of the sound, to the interior of the harmonic spectrum, to the interior of the vowel…”

– KARLHEINZ STOCKHAUSEN

“Theatre of Voices, prepared by their founder and director, Paul Hillier, performed with an intensity that made for a unique sonic experience. At the heart of their interpretation was a feat of musical alchemy: they made audible the harmonics that are usually hidden around individual notes. By changing the vowel sound of a held pitch, they created a chorus of ethereal, bell-like sounds that soared octaves above the chord they were actually singing.” – The Guardian (Concert review from 2006 UK Tour)

In 1990, after many years as Music Director of the Hilliard Ensemble, Paul Hillier founded the Theatre of Voices and began his series of acclaimed recordings for harmonia mundi usa. Flexible in size, the ensemble was created to focus on medieval and renaissance polyphony and contemporary composers of the “new tonality” school, electronica and experimental work. “I like the idea that you can create a world with just the sound of voices,” he has said, “even with a single voice there is so much you can do.” Considered one of the world’s foremost vocal ensembles, Theatre of Voices now operates in a European reincarnation out of Denmark where Hillier is based. The size of the group expands or contracts depending on the repertoire, ranging from solo and small ensemble works such as “Bitter Ballads” and the recent “Cries of London” to larger ensemble pieces, like Arvo Pärt’s De Profundis. Variety called one Theatre of Voices concert a “profound musical expression with vocal performances of bell-like clarity.”

For a complete Theatre of Voices discography visit: www.harmoniamundi.com

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Available SACD format only
This stereo/multi-channel hybrid SACD can be played on any standard compact disc player

Karlheinz Stockhausen
Stimmung
Paul Hillier / Theatre of Voices

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