

GENESIS

FOR TWO GRAND PIANOS

GUDDAL & MATTE

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Norwegian pianists Yngve Guddal and Roger T Matte had separately had the same dilemma for many years: each had tried to arrange the music of rock legends Genesis for piano but had found it impossible with only two hands. The solution finally presented itself when they met each other six years ago, and with the release of "Genesis For Two Grand Pianos" we're at last able to enjoy the fruits of their considerable labours.



Yngve and Roger are both classically trained (Yngve at the University of Music in Berlin and Roger at the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo) and one of the things about this CD that most impresses is the sensitivity with which the tracks have been chosen and arranged for the two piano medium. It's a real connoisseurs selection, drawing on albums spanning much of Genesis' career and proof (if any were needed) of the enduring quality of the originals.

The album was recorded on two Steinway D Grand Pianos in the Concert Hall of the Norwegian Academy of Music, Oslo, Norway during 1999/2000.

"Genesis For Two Grand Pianos is an ingenious and thoughtful project delivered in a virtuosic style reminiscent in places of Stravinsky's work for two pianos. It seems as if classical hands have firmly grasped the torch originally lit by a rock band who often looked to music's roots in the first place.

Genesis' largely keyboard based tunes are cleverly reduced to their constituent parts most effectively to my mind and in some cases have only gained in this unique interpretation."

Steve Hackett



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