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Authenticity and the flute player

## Reviews



*Acentos*. Works by South American composers. Jessica Warren-Acosta, flute. Filarmonika FILA0103.

When I was sent this CD I groaned inwardly at the prospect of yet another bland offering of pretty, but inconsequential, Latin American songs. How wrong I was! This recording of Jessica Warren-Acosta, together with, among others, the Avelon String Quartet and pianist Christopher Cooley, shows every aspect of the wide range of styles encompassed by the Latin American composers of the last century. Jessica Warren-Acosta is an active member of *Caminos Del Inka*, a project dedicated to the search for, and revival of, Latin American classical music, as well as the commissioning of new pieces. The CD begins with *Impressions de la Puna* by Ginastera for flute and string quartet and this is followed by *Sonatina Fantasia* by Andrés Sás for flute and piano. These works both use traditional dance forms to good effect. The performances are really excellent. Gabriela Lenà Frank's *Bosquejos Pre-Incaicos* for flute and cello explores many of the extended techniques of both instruments and I found this to be an exciting work. Diego Luzuriaga's *Yaravi & Yumbo* for flute and strings written in 2003 is the longest work on the CD and it combines traditional-style melodies with the rhythmic repetitions we are used to in the music of composers such as Steve Reich. Here is a chance for Jessica Warren-Acosta to show that she can produce as beautiful a tone on the alto flute as she does consistently on the concert flute. Andrés Sás's *Amanecer* for flute and voice is followed by Diego Luzuriaga's *Tierra... Tierra...* for two flutes, which is more experimental than his work with strings and uses breath tones and the bending of notes particularly effectively. *Lullaby and Doina* for flute, clarinet and strings by Osualdo Golijov is followed by *The Hollow Earth* for flute, viola and harp by Liduino Pitombeirã. Some influence of Debussy can be heard here, not least in the wonderfully rich textures and colours. It is interesting that, after *Alone* for solo flute by José Carlos Campos, Liduino Pitombeirã is responsible for the beautiful arrangement for flute and strings of Villa-Lobos's *Melodia Sentimental*, which brings the CD to a close. Every performance is immaculate and, should you wish to play any of these pieces after hearing them so attractively played, the publishers of the music are all listed.

Brenda Dykes