

My debut CD is a collection of mostly new guitar works beginning with Sergio Assad's fiery and virtuosic

Fantasia Carioca, composed in 1994 as a "celebration of the city of Rio de Janeiro." The contemplative and nostalgic Jeff Buckley Requiem (2007), by French guitarist/composer Denis Mortagne, was written in memory of the New

York underground musical icon who died tragically in 1997. In sharp contrast, *Spatula* (2000) is a lighthearted pastiche with seemingly disparate elements of Spanish guitar music, bluegrass, and a Cuban habanera, "scrambled" together by New York composer David Mallamud.

\*Adagio, K. 540, a work originally for piano (and the only non-contemporary piece on this recording), was beautifully transcribed for guitar and introduced to me by Ben Verdery. Written in Italy in 1984, the first of Nuccio D'Angelo's *Due Canzoni Lidie* explores unusual sonorities with the Lydian mode and also uses space as a compositional element. The concluding work, Robert Beaser's *Shenandoah* (1995), is based on the traditional American folksong by the same name. Fragments of the original melody are heard throughout the piece within rich harmonies and a variety of guitar effects, yet full quotations of the melody occur only three times.

I would like to thank my family for their love and support, Frank Koonce and Ben Verdery for their guidance, Steffanie Cruse for photography, d-Lock and all the Yale guitar guys (and girl!) for their help and support, Thomas Masse, and Jeroen Hilhorst. Also thanks to Hugh Gilmartin of D'Addario Strings and to Emmanuelle Maillot of Savarez Strings. Special thanks to Leanne and Frank Koonce for help with the production and design of this CD. Most of all I thank God.

\* Austin Moorbead

Recording, editing, and mastering by
Ben Taylor, OmniClassic Recording
Additional mastering by
Dave Shirk, Sonorous Mastering, AZ
Producer: Frank Koonce
Graphic Design: Leanne Koonce
Guitar: Jeroen Hilhorst, 2007
Photography: Steffanie Cruse

## Moorhead.

.... two-time prize winner in the world's most prestigious guitar competition (GFA), was recently awarded a DAAD Scholarship by the German government to study with Tilman Hoppstock. He received his Master's of Music in 2009 from Yale University while studying with Benjamin Verdery, and his Bachelor's from Arizona State University while studying with Frank Koonce. In addition to his GFA awards, he has received first prize in other well-known national and international guitar competitions, including the 2008 National Guitar Workshop Competition, the 2007 ECU Guitar Competition, and the 2007 American String Teachers Association Competition. He has performed concerts throughout the United States and parts of Europe.



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## A ustin Moorhead

1 Fantasia Carioca (10:08) Sergio Assad

## *Jeff Buckley Requiem* ★ (11:11) Denis Mortagne

- 2 I. Carmen perennis/ Ballad of Eternity (4:4
- 3 II. Fuga temporum/ Fugitive Vision (2:4:
- 4 III. Prima lux/ Sunrise (3:43)
- 5 Spatula \* (7:00) David Mallamud
- 6 Adagio K. 540 (11:57) W. A. Mozart arr. Benjamin Verdery

## **Due Canzoni Lidie** (6:06) Nuccio D'Angelo I. Espressivo

- 8 Shenandoah (9:12)
- Robert Beaser

Total time: 55:34

k Premiere Recording



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