

DAVID RAKOWSKI STOLEN MOMENTS [1048]
PIANO CONCERTO NO. 2
Amy Briggs, piano

BOSTON MODERN ORCHESTRA PROJECT
GIL ROSE, CONDUCTOR

BMOP presents its second release featuring the music of Boston-based composer David Rakowski. Rakowski combines a keen ear for orchestral color, a deep understanding of instrumental virtuosity, rhythmic panache, and his trademark wit in two major works that burst with energy and personality. The title work, *Stolen Moments*, has its origin in a commission by the Kaufman Center for a composition bringing several renowned classical artists together to interpret and respond to jazz idioms. The prominent solo piano part, here performed by longtime BMOP collaborator Sarah Bob, reflects Rakowski's long obsession with exploring pianistic styles and techniques (such as the stride that dominates *Stolen Moments*) via short études. These études also form the backstory for the Piano Concerto No. 2, written for and performed here by virtuoso contemporary pianist Amy Briggs, whose years-long dedication to Rakowski's études inspired him to write over 100, and eventually the Piano Concerto No. 2, with her playing in mind. Gil Rose ties it all together with the orchestral virtuosity of the Boston Modern Orchestra Project.

sound

BMOP/sound, the label of the acclaimed Boston Modern Orchestra Project, explores the evolution of the music formerly known as classical. Its eclectic catalog offers both rediscovered classics of the 20th Century and the music of today's most influential and innovative composers. BMOP/sound gives adventurous listeners a singular opportunity to explore the music that is defining this generation and the next.



MUSICWEB INTERNATIONAL

"Rakowski is a master orchestrator and...Rose coaxes a myriad array of sonorities from the Boston Modern Orchestra Project."

GRAMOPHONE

"David Rakowski's second release...has a distinctly American enthusiasm and expertise, as do Gil Rose's excellent performances with the BMOP band..."

SOUTH SHORE CRITIC

"David Rakowski's *Stolen Moments* is a listenable and approachable example of his witty take on emotion which challenges one's cerebral involvement with his music."

WQXR

Q2 Album of the Week

"...the wit is apparent enough in a first listen to these pieces with the off-kilter tango references of *Stolen Moments* and the delicious virtuosity of the concerto."