

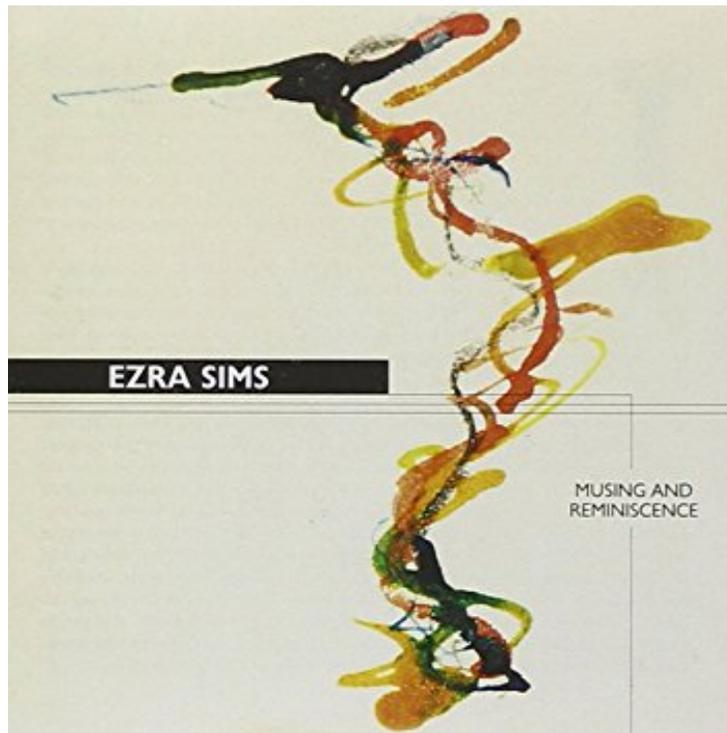
EZRA SIMS MUSING AND REMINISCENCE
SONATINE | SONATA | AEDM IN MEM | IF I TOLD HIM
CONCERT PIECE II

BOSTON MODERN ORCHESTRA PROJECT
GIL ROSE, CONDUCTOR

Ezra Sims is known mainly as a composer of microtonal music. Surrounded by world-class performers who champion his music, he has produced a large number of chamber and solo, choral, and two orchestral works. With his unwavering commitment to his unique vision he has made an enormous contribution to modern music. This retrospective spans his entire career, almost fifty years of compositional activity, and is an excellent introduction to his very distinctive sound world.



New World preserves neglected treasures of the past and nurtures the creative future of American music. Through the production of over 400 recordings some 700 American composers have been represented. In an industry obsessed with million-unit sales and immediate profits, New World chooses artistic merit as its indicator of success.



THE EXAMINER

“The contents of the CD combines two of his earliest serial compositions with four works dating from 1988, by which time Sims had established the theoretical foundations for his own approach to microtonal composition ... There is no doubt that Sims’s music has departed significantly from the way in which categorical perception has conditioned us to hear pitch; but this music is performed with such clarity and conviction to convince us that these are not tones to be dismissed as ‘wrong notes!’ Every pitch sounds exactly as it should.”

FANFARE

“Adventurous and ‘subversive’ music ... An important document for an underrepresented American composer, still at the height of his powers at age 82.”

THE WIRE

“Scene-setting juvenilia (think Schoenberg meets Prokofiev) brings you to the heart of Massachusetts-based composer Ezra Sims’s one-off perspective on microtonality. Sims filters the octave into 18 notes but—herein lies his genius—he then reapplies his shaken-up tonality to traditional structures entirely reliant on tonal hierarchies for their functionality...it becomes like a critique on tradition; blurring tradition from another angle.”