

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2016

A Living Composer Whose Voice Is Redolent With A Resounding Arsis and Ensuing Sense of Direction and Completion - Listen to This Voice...

After Edvard Grieg? Much indeed; how about Harald Saeverud, who was born a decade before Grieg departed, and left a treasure of music that has become a vital portion of the musical legacy given us by Norway?

The reason that I bring up the name of Saeverud, who was one among a treasure trove of Norwegian composers, is that his son, Ketil Hvoslef, one of today's musical treasures, is a source of recognition in increasing measure among Norway's living composers. An irrefutable proof of my assertion is by way of an album of Hvoslef's music, the second of eight albums to be made which, I am told, will give us the chamber music of the composer in its entirety.

I was recently sent this album, and was, to state the least, deeply impressed by the manner of communication he possesses, through singular instrumental combinations, an unremitting sense of humor fused to a line of incessant and remarkably clear direction.

Two accordions; eight flutes; a soprano speaking (somewhere, perhaps, between the worlds of sprechstimme and sprechgesang) the language of a planet to be named later; percussion and pianos - just a few of the possibilities brought to light by this insightful and delightful musical engineer.

A one-of-a-kind composer (a rather important requisite, agreed?).

I loved it -for me, he is one of few composers of our time who has a wonderfully clear sense of purpose.

I believe the album is now available - I was informed that it can be gotten through <https://shop.klicktrack.com/1001523>

Do get to know the work of this man. Quite candidly, I feel that there is much to gain by those of us in the 'New World' simply by turning our gaze onto what is happening to and for the world of music, in Norway...

Leslie Hurwitz.