

TORBEN ENGHOFF

FOR ALL AGES
pieces for piano



CHRISTINA BJØRKØE



diana
cord

This music is recorded at:
the Danish National Academy of Music, Odense, August 2022.

Sound engineer and producer: Sebastian Eskildsen.

Grand piano: Steinway
recorded as 'live' – absolutely no editing

Christina Bjørkøe – piano

All pieces composed by Torben Enghoff (2009–2019)

Thanks for great financial support to:

The Augustinus Foundation
The Beckett Foundation
Consul Georg Jorck and wife Emma Jorck's Foundation
Koda's Cultural Funds.

Thanks to:

Edition Wilhelm Hansen for help and support.

Torben Enghoff (b. 1947)

Musician, composer, teacher, writer.

Professional musician since 1967. As a jazz musician played with Maxwells, The Danish Radio Jazz Group, Red Rodney, Santa Cruz, Creme Fraiche etc. In 1986 Enghoff formed New Danish Saxophone Quartet; in 1999, Copenhagen Saxophone Quartet.

Many works were written specifically for the two ensembles by contemporary Danish composers such as Per Nørgård, Ib Nørholm, Pelle Gudmundsen-Holmgreen and others. The activity with the two sax quartets led to several CDs and concert tours abroad.

As classical musician Enghoff has played with The Danish Radio Symphony, Collegium Musicum, The Danish Chamber Orchestra and Michala Petri to mention but a few.

Since 1999 Enghoff has been a composer of scored music, mostly chamber music and songs for choir (more than 50 songs for mixed choir). Enghoff's music has been played and recorded by ensembles such as The Kontra Quartet, Oslo Philharmonic Wind Quintet, Cikada String Quartet, Carion, The Danish Chamber Orchestra, Musica Ficta, Copenhagen Cello Project, Christina Bjørkøe e.g. Much of the chamber music and songs for choir are available on CD.

In 2003 Enghoff won the prestigious P2-prize for a CD with sonatas by Scarlatti (chamber recording of the year). Among other things Enghoff has made radio programs, written articles for musical magazines and contributed to Gad's Encyclopedia of music.

He is the author of "Carl Nielsen – an Overview" (Publisher: Nyt Nordisk Forlag).

Enghoff is member of the committee of The Danish Carl Nielsen Society.

Publisher of printed music: Edition Wilhelm Hansen.



Photo: Bjarne Juul, Adlandia

Christina Bjørkøe—piano

"Christina Bjørkøe lets loose with her most incisive, dynamically charged playing".

Classics Today

Christina Bjørkøe received the Honour Award from Wilhelm Hansen Foundation 2021. She is associate professor at The Danish National Academy of Music. Born in Denmark she was at the age of 19 accepted by the *Juilliard School of Music* in New York, where she studied with Seymour Lipkin, as later with Anne Oland at the *Royal Danish Academy of Music* in Copenhagen.

Christina Bjørkøe gives concerts in Europe, China and domestic venues. She has appeared as a soloist, with orchestral engagements and as chamber musician at venues in Denmark, including the Tivoli Concert Hall's major Beethoven, Chopin and Schubert series, as well as in Sweden, Germany, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Poland, France and South America, Asia and the USA.

Christina Bjørkøe has performed with most Danish symphony orchestras, with the Malmö Symphony Orchestra of Sweden, the Iceland Philharmonic Orchestra, Recife Festival Orchestra in Brazil, The Czechish Chamber Orchestra and the Danish National Symphony Orchestra/DR.

Christina Bjørkøe's recording of Knudåge Riisager's piano music received the Danish Music Award 2005 and 2009 her recording of Carl Nielsen: Complete Piano Works received the Danish Music Award as Solo Recording of the Year. She twice won First Prize in the Steinway Competition and has been awarded several other prizes and grants including the prestigious Victor Borge Award.



Photo: Niels Hav

Albums:

Bach: Goldberg Variations, CLASSCD360

Chopin: 24 Preludes, CLASSCD292

Mozart: Piano Concertos no.21 & 23 with the Czech Chamber Philharmonic, CLASS-CD369

Clara & Robert Schumann: Piano works, CLASSCD445

BENTZON, N.V.: Piano Sonatas, Vol. 2 8.226030

BORRESEN: Violin Sonata in A minor / GLASS: Violin Sonata in E flat major 8.226005

KOPPEL, Herman D.: Piano Quartet / 9 Variations / Piano Quintet 8.226003

RIISAGER: Piano Works 8.22600

CARL NIELSEN: Complete Piano Works, Cpo777413-2

Vagn Holmboe, Works for Violin and Piano CD 8.226063 (2009)

Knudåge Riisager, Violin Works SACD 6.220594 (2012)

Poul Rovsing Olsen, Piano Concerto CD 8.226038 (2012)

Niels W. Gade: Klaversonate & Akvareller CPO777628 Katalognummer; 761203762828

Beethoven: Diabelli Variations / Christina Bjørkøe—Danacord.

Animal Universe—Piano studies by 12 composers, edited by Christina Bjørkøe, Dacapo Records and the Wilhelm Hansen Foundation 2021.

Shortly about the music

The contents of this CD present the piano pieces in the music book “For all Ages”, published by Edition Wilhelm Hansen.

I am totally self-taught and do not compose according to rules. I am only using my ears. Little ideas come to me constantly and if I am lucky to have pencil and music paper at hand, I just write it down. After that I turn to all the other part of the work.

Many of the pieces in this collection are obviously simple. There is a reason for that: I hardly can play the piano. But that doesn't prevent me from sitting sit at a keyboard and figure out what is practically possible with the two hands. I thought to myself: If I can write something that I myself, although with a lot of trouble, can play—it might be not too bad for the student who is slightly experienced. Another thing: In a way it is just as difficult to write something simple as to write something complicated. You have to decide every tone rather carefully. Simplicity is a demanding challenge.

If I were asked to mention all the music that I have have been enthusiastic about through my life—you would see an extremely long list of names from jazz and from classical music. As a result of that I have chosen to mention just a little lot of composers, whose keyboard music I have been particularly fascinated with. First of all, of course, Bach. Then follow Scarlatti, Haydn, Mozart, Schubert and Chopin. From the 20th century especially Carl Nielsen, Poulenc, Ravel, Satie, Chick Corea and Bill Evans.

All titles of the pieces come spontaneously just as the music.

When I wrote *Waltz for Two Little Teddy Bears*, I simply had in mind the vision of two teddy bears dancing together.

Diva, the Little Dog is made as a salute to my daughter's Chihuahua.

On Bicycle to Ib's House—I got the idea when, on bicycle, passing the house that belonged to my close friend, composer Ib Nørholm.

Winter Light—because of a special beautiful low light that inspired me.

Song for Muffy—Muffy was for some years the favorite teddy bear of our daughter's collection, part of the family, and had to be tributed with a song.

Rain in June was written on a day with exactly that.

November has a bit of melancholy just like November.

All titles are created out of a situation or a mood.

Snow Dance was originally written for the Wind Quintet of the Oslo Philharmonic, but suddenly I found it suitable for keyboard music.

Torben Enghoff (f. 1947)

Autodidakt musiker, komponist, forfatter.

Professionel siden 1967. Spillet med bl.a. Maxwells, Cadentia Nova Danica, Radiojazzgruppen, Red Rodney, Makaya Nshoko, Thomas Clausen, Alex Riel, Creme Fraiche, Santa Cruz og Søren Kristiansen.

Dannede 1986 Ny Dansk Saxofonkvarteret og i 1999 Copenhagen Saxophone Quartet. Uropført mere end 70 værker skrevet til de to kvartetter af fx Per Nørgård, Ib Nørholm og Pelle Gudmundsen-Holmgreen. Spillet i lang række lande med de to kvartetter, inklusive to koncert-turnéer i USA og deltagelse i statsbesøg.

Som klassisk saxofonist har T.E. spillet med bl.a. DR Symfoniorkestret, Collegium Musicum, New York City Ballet, Amalie Maling og Michala Petri.

Fra 1999 komponist af partiturmusik. Fået spillet musik af bl.a. Kontra Kvartetten, Oslo Filharmoniens Blæserkvintet, Universitetskoret Lille Muko, Cikada String Quartet, DR Underholdningsorkestret, Carion, Washington Saxophone Quartet, Vokalensemblet Musica Ficta, Copenhagen Cello Project og Christina Bjørkøe.

Vandt 2003 P2-prisen for CD med sonater af Scarlatti.

Har udgivet adskillige CD'er med saxofonkvarteret og egne værker (kormusik og kammermusik)

Forfatter til bl.a. bøgerne "Saxofon", "Solisten i Jazzen" og "Carl Nielsen – et overblik."

Gennem årene en vis journalistisk virksomhed i Danmark Radio med egne udsendelser, som deltager i magasin - programmer og flere gange kommentator ved fx kammermusik-konkurrencen. Skribent ved først MM og siden Jazz Special.

Bidragyder til Gads Musikleksikon.

Bestyrelsesmedlem i Carl Nielsen Selskabet.

Forlag for musikudgivelser: Edition Wilhelm Hansen.



Foto: Bjarne Juul, Adlandia

Christina Bjørkøe – piano

Christina Bjørkøe modtog Wilhelm Hansen Fondens Hæderslegat 2021.

Hun begyndte at spille klaver som 5-årig og var elev af Therese Koppel. I en alder af bare 19 år blev optaget på The Juilliard School of Music i New York som elev hos Seymour Lipkin.

Senere afsluttede hun sine studier hos Anne Øland på Det Kgl. Danske Musikkonservatorium, hvorfra hun debuterede i 1997.

Allerede som 16-årig optrådte hun som solist med orkester og har siden givet koncerter som solist og kammermusiker både i Tivolis store serier med musik af Beethoven, Chopin og Schubert i København og rundt omkring i Europa, USA, Sydamerika og Asien.

Hun har været solist med de fleste danske symfoniorkestre, deriblandt DR SymfoniOrkestret, samt med Det Tjekkiske Kammerorkester, Recife Festival Orchestra i Brasilien, Malmö Symfoniorkester og Iceland Symphony Orchestra.

Christina Bjørkøe har en omfattende diskografi bag sig – både solo og som kammermusiker. Foruden fornemme indspilninger af Beethovens "Diabellivariationer", Bachs "Goldbergvariationer", Chopins Præludier og klavermusik af Clara og Robert Schumann har hun ydet en stor indsats for både ældre og yngre danske komponister som Carl Nielsen, Niels W. Gade, Hakon Børresen, Louis Glass, Niels Viggo Bentzon, Herman D. Koppel, Vagn Holmboe, Poul Rovsing Olsen, Axel Borup Jørgensen, Fini Henriques og Anders Nordentoft.

Hun modtog P2 Prisen i 2005 for bedste klassiske soloudgivelse, Knudåge Riisagers klaverværker, og indspilningen af Carl Niensens samlede klaverværker indbragte hende P2 Prisen igen i 2009.



Foto: Niels Hav

Blandt flere andre priser har Christina Bjørkøe modtaget Victor Borge-prisen, som blev uddelt i forbindelse med en koncert i Tivolis Koncertsal, hvor hun efterfølgende havde Borge til bords ved et festligt arrangement.

Senest har Christina Bjørkøe indspillet CD'en "Animal Universe" på DACAPO - etuder af 12 nulevende komponister: Anders Koppel, Anders Nordentoft, John Frandsen, Peter Bruun, Eva Noer Kondrup, Anders Brødsgaard, Birgitte Alsted, Andy Pape, Karsten Fundal, Amir Mayhar Tafreshipour, Mogens Christensen og Erik Ørum von Spreckelsen.

Christina Bjørkøe er ansat som docent på Syddansk Musikkonservatorium.

<https://www.dacapo-records.dk/da/kunstnere/christina-bjoerkoe>

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Beethoven: Diabelli Variations / Christina Bjørkøe—Danacord.

Animal Universe—Piano studies by 12 composers, edited by Christina Bjørkøe, Dacapo Records and the Wilhelm Hansen Foundation 2021.

Kort om musikken

Musikken på denne CD er en præsentation af de små klaverstykker, der findes i nodehæftet "For all Ages", udgivet på Edition Wilhelm Hansen. Dog er tilføjet et lille ekstra stykke, *Sneens Dans*.

Jeg er autodidakt og komponerer ikke efter regler, men bruger udelukkende mit øre. Små, melodiske idéer melder sig konstant, og hvis jeg er heldig at have blyant og nodepapir indenfor rækkevidde, skriver jeg det ned - det er det hurtigste. Herefter er det så i gang med 'alt det andet'.

Mange af stykkerne i samlingen er jo åbenlyst enkle. Det er der en grund til - jeg kan næsten ikke selv spille klaver. Men det udelukker ikke, at man kan sidde ved et keyboard og finde ud af, hvad der kan lade sig gøre med de to hænder. Så jeg tænkte: Hvis jeg nu skriver noget, som jeg selv, omend med stort besvær, kan spille, så er det måske ikke så tosset for den let øvede. Noget andet er, at det faktisk er lige så svært at skrive enkelt som at skrive kompliceret. Man er jo klædt af, så der skal i den grad tages stilling til tonerne. Enkelthed stiller krav.

Skulle jeg nævne al den musik, der i tidens løb har begejstret mig, ville det ingen ende tage, for det bliver en meget lang række navne fra både jazzen og den klassiske musik. Derfor har jeg valgt at nøjes med en lille, begrænset flok, hvis musik for tangenter jeg i særlig grad elsker. Det er naturligvis først og fremmest Bach. Men herudover er det Scarlatti, Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, Chopin og fra det 20. århundrede er det Carl Nielsen, Poulenc, Ravel, Satie, Chick Corea og Bill Evans.

Titler kommer spontant ligesom musikken, og jeg holder fast i det første, der melder sig.

Da jeg skrev *Vals for to små Bamser* så jeg simpelthen de to små, dansende bamser for mig.

Den lille Hund, til Diva er skrevet til vores datters Chihuahua, som underholdt os gennem flere år.

Når jeg cykler forbi Ibs Hus - idéen fik jeg, da jeg cyklede forbi det hus, hvor min nære ven, komponisten Ib Nørholm, boede.

Vinterlys, fordi der lige den dag var et smukt lavt lys, der inspirerede mig.

Sang til Muffy: vores datters bamse, Muffy, blev en del af familien, så den skulle da have en sang.

Juniregn er naturligvis skrevet en dag med netop juniregn.

November har en lille melankoli, der præger denne måned.

Alle titler er skabt ud fra en situation eller en stemning.

Sneens Dans er oprindeligt skrevet til Oslo Filharmoniens Blæserkvintet, men jeg kunne pludselig se, at den egnede sig for klaver.

Torben Enghoff

EDITION WILHELM HANSEN
WH33369

Torben Enghoff

FOR ALL AGES

16 Pieces for Piano Solo

Nodehæftet med stykkerne fra denne CD, bortset fra det lille ekstra, *Sneens Dans*.

The music book with the pieces from this CD, except the extra one, *Snow Dance*.

**IF YOU WANT TO PURCHASE THE PRINTED
MUSIC (EXCEPT 'SNOW DANCE') GO TO:**

**[www.wisemusicclassical.com/
work/61256/For-All-Ages--Torben-
Enghoff/](http://www.wisemusicclassical.com/work/61256/For-All-Ages--Torben-Enghoff/)**

**FOR CONTACT TO THE COMPOSER, WRITE
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Recorded August 2022
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Academy of Music in
Odense

Sound engineer and
producer:
Sebastian Eskildsen

Design/Prepress:
Bjarne Juul, Adlandia

Grand piano: Steinway

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CHRISTINA BJØRKØE – piano
Composed by Torben Enghoff 2009–2019.

Tracks – English and Danish titles:

- | | | |
|-----|---|------|
| 1. | Waltz for Two Little Teddy Bears – Vals for to små Bamser | 0:57 |
| 2. | Diva, the Little Dog – Den lille Hund, til Diva | 1:11 |
| 3. | On Bicycle to Ib's House – Når jeg cykler forbi Ibs Hus | 1:45 |
| 4. | Optimism! – Godt Humør | 0:53 |
| 5. | Winter Light – Vinterlys | 1:44 |
| 6. | Song for Muffy – Sang til Muffy | 0:43 |
| 7. | The Joy of Tuesday – Glæden ved Tirsdag | 1:01 |
| 8. | In the Playground – Vi leger | 1:48 |
| 9. | Rain in June – Juniregn | 2:01 |
| 10. | Quiet Mind – Bøn og Undren | 2:22 |
| 11. | A Little Spring Waltz – En lille Forårsvals | 1:10 |
| 12. | Kirsten in her Garden – Kirsten i sin Have | 0:55 |
| 13. | Everything Will Be All Right – Det går nok | 1:01 |
| 14. | Good Night Melody – Godnat-melodi | 1:44 |
| 15. | Evening Song – Aftensang | 1:36 |
| 16. | November – November | 2:17 |
| | EXTRA: | |
| 17. | Snow Dance – Sneens Dans | 2:04 |

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