

Mp3 Fireworks - The Rite Of Spring

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A new music group, Fireworks looks and sounds like a rock band, but performs with the virtuosity and sensitivity of a classical chamber music ensemble. 14 MP3 Songs CLASSICAL: Contemporary, ROCK: Instrumental Rock Details: "This may be the hottest new classical band in New York. Call it what you will, their performances are astute and extremely entertaining... I have never seen happier performers and a more relaxed and receptive audience... Run, don't walk, to their next performance and buy their CDs too. This eclectic ensemble of flute, sax, violin, cello, bass, guitar, percussion, and keys is magic. The experience is ecstatic." - Mark Greenfest, New Music Connoisseur This arrangement of Igor Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring for Fireworks is breath-taking. Never has the Rite been played with such edge and verve. The group's daring conductorless performance of the work continues to wow audiences everywhere, and remains the ensemble's most requested and most popular work. Fireworks looks and sounds like a rock band, but performs with the virtuosity and sensitivity of a classical chamber music ensemble. Embracing the richness of today's diverse musical environment, Fireworks moves freely across categorical boundaries, pursuing the highest caliber of performance regardless of style. Distinctions between genres have little meaning to the members of Fireworks. Instead, eclecticism is a way of life. Though classically trained, each of the ensemble members played rock, jazz, and world music from an early age. As a result, the variety of their programming is not forced; it is a natural consequence of their shared tastes and backgrounds. The apparently disparate styles that the group plays are simply dialects of a single musical language. The group thrives on the excitement of exploring unfamiliar territory, developing the performance standard for contemporary works, and formulating unique interpretations of classic repertoire. Each season Fireworks presents new pieces by emerging composers; it has premiered ten pieces in its first three seasons. The ensemble is well-known for its striking arrangements and interpretations of earlier classical repertoire, ranging from J. S. Bach's The Art of the Fugue to Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring. Its revitalizations provide a contemporary and unbiased entree into these masterpieces for new listeners and a fresh perspective on the time-honored classics for established audiences. Writing about a recent performance in Hartford, composer and critic Robert Carl

summed it up well: "This simply has to be heard to be believed; the music sounds completely contemporary in this orchestration, and one hears things one never has before. It's a gamble that triumphs."

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