

Mp3 Stephanie Winters - Through The Storm

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Cellist Winters plays haunting renditions of Miles Davis, Bela Bartok, Ornette Coleman, Mahalia Jackson and several new compositions arranged for cello solo and cello multi-track ensemble. 11 MP3 Songs

CLASSICAL: Contemporary Details: Reaching the listener is ultimately the only thing that matters as a performer. For cellist Stephanie Winters that philosophy has made her one of New York's most eclectic performing artists and in-demand string players. In addition to her striking solo work, Winters has become a valued accompanist to an ever growing list of America's most celebrated singer-songwriters including Richie Havens, Dar Williams, Catie Curtis, and David Wilcox. This year, Winters has performed with Richie Havens in the U.S., Italy, England, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand. Through answering an ad in The Village Voice for a cellist, she formed The Nudes with singer-songwriter Walter Parks in 1991. Together for eight years, they recorded three critically acclaimed CDs and toured the US playing festivals, clubs and colleges. The Nudes' broad appeal and musical excellence made them a welcome opening act for artists Daniel Lanois, Tuck and Patti, Shawn Colvin, Chicago, and George Benson among others. Winters recalls, "We asked Lanois for his advice after we opened for him and he heard us play. He said, 'Make a list of all your attributes. Then divide that list into those attributes that make you unique and those attributes you have in common with other artists. Hang the first list on your wall and throw the other one away.'" Taking that advice to heart, Winters has woven her rich tone, evocative phrasing, and consummate studio skill into a stunning solo recording entitled, "Through the Storm". Produced by Alan Williams, this ground breaking debut features Winters as a multitracked one-woman orchestra who tackles a dazzling array of styles from Miles Davis to Bela Bartok, from the Bulgarian Women's Choir to gospel singer Mahalia Jackson, plus her own compositions. On January 27, 2005 Winters performed her CD release concert in visually dramatic setting of a Gothic church near Lincoln Center. The evening was captured on video by award winning documentary filmmaker, Paul Devlin. In the works is a short film about Winters which explores how she is surviving as a performing cellist by crossing genres and reaching new audiences. Meanwhile, Winters will continue touring and playing Bach in the NYC subways in the early mornings. "I arrive at the station by 7:30am and play for a couple of hours. I know immediately

if I am connecting because the tips flow when I do," says Winters. In every situation, Winters finds for the music's passionate thread. "I play from the heart," she says, "I believe that is why my music touches people." "People tell me all the time, 'The cello is my favorite instrument,' and I never tire of hearing this."

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