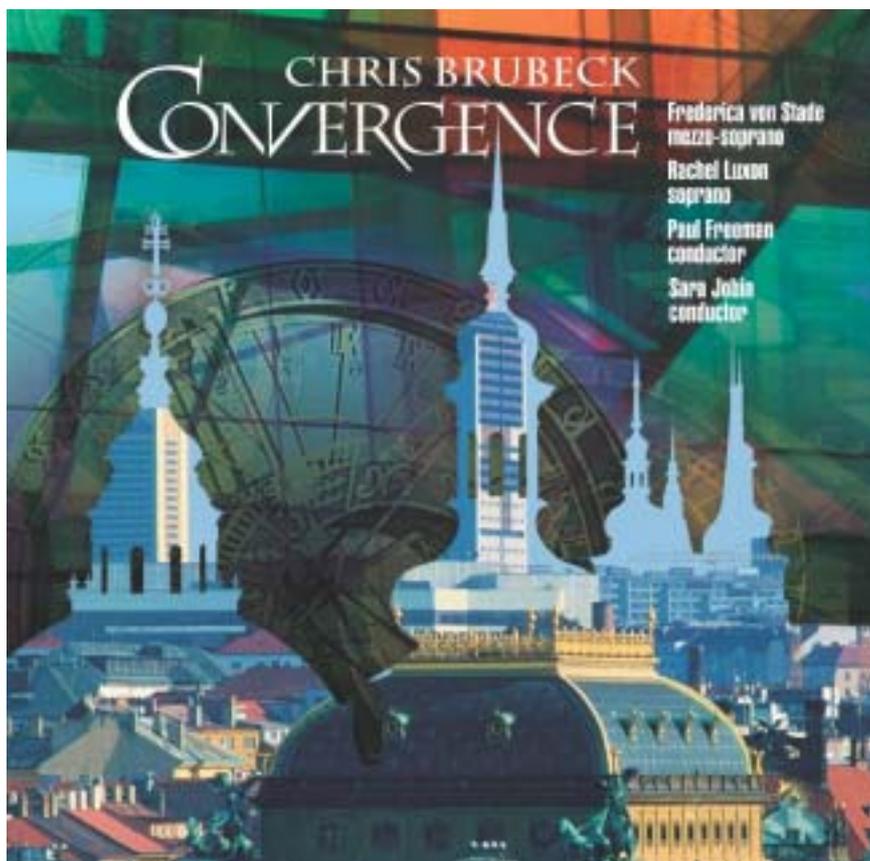


CHRIS BRUBECK – Convergence :



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PRODUCT INFORMATION:

- An interesting album from Chris Brubeck, the son of jazz musician Dave Brubeck.
- Three 21st century classical works on one CD.
- *Convergence – Concerto for Orchestra* was commissioned by The Boston Pops and premiered in Boston in May 2001. A work in three movements in a conventional structure (fast-slow-fast) using influences from European folk dance to American blues. An innovative and striking work.
- *River of Songs* is based on a selection of poems written by children and published in the book *River of Words*. The songs are written for soprano and mezzo-soprano and features Frederica von Stade.
- *Prague Concerto for Bass Trombone and Orchestra* is Brubeck's second concerto for his principal instrument and features the composer as soloist.
- Jewel case packaging / 20 page booklet with poem texts included.

TRACKLISTING:

Convergence (2001)

1. The Journey
2. Reminiscence in Blues
3. La Grande Parade du funk

River of Song (2002)

4. Water
5. The Storm is Coming

6. Moon Song
7. Goldfish
8. The Rier
9. mggie and milly and molly and may

Prague Concerto for Bass Trombone and Orchestra (2004)

10. The Return of the Prince
11. Song of the Mountains
12. Dance of the Neocons

On Tour:

London, Barbican – 6th December 2005
Dave Brubeck 85th Birthday Concert

London, Barbican – 17th December 2005
Dave Brubeck's Family Christmas

Munich – 19th December 2005

Ludwigshafen – 29th December 2005

CONVERGENCE: THE MUSIC OF CHRIS BRUBECK

Including 'River of Song' - a work commissioned and performed by operatic Legend Frederica von Stade

November 10, 2005, Port Washington, NY) – KOCH International Classics is proud to announce the release of *Convergence*, the second disc dedicated to the concert music of Chris Brubeck. This composer, who also doubles as trombonist, bassist, pianist, singer, and guitarist, spins his wide-ranging influences into exciting, flashy works for orchestra. Drawing on a number of sources including New Orleans jazz, R&B, be-bop and the canon of Western Classical Music, Brubeck—aided by high caliber performers like the Czech National Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Paul Freeman, the Tassajara Symphony under Sara Jobin, soprano Rachel Luxon, and superstar mezzo-soprano Frederica Von State—offers gamut-running, genre-leaping works guaranteed to cause toes to tap.

The three works on this disc represent a wide array of departures for Brubeck. It includes the titular orchestral work *Convergence*, a concerto for orchestra commissioned by the Boston Pops—a work the Boston Globe called "...the most ambitious work ever commissioned by the Pops;"—*River of Song*, a setting of poems by children, and the Prague Concerto for Bass Trombone and Orchestra (for which the composer doubles as soloist). Though they seem splashy, free, unfettered by rules, these are works of substance and conviction, spanning a broad swathe of emotional possibilities.

In addition to composing, **Chris Brubeck** is an active performer on bass, trombone, piano, and guitar playing with his two groups: The Brubeck Brothers Quartet (with their debut CD on Koch Records being released in early 2006) and Triple Play. On stage, Chris' irrepressible enthusiasm is matched by his fluid command of jazz, blues, folk, funk, pop and classical musical styles. Chris was named a 2005 Music Alive Composer-in-Residence with the Stockton Symphony and as such, wrote a genre-breaking piece for orchestra and actors entitled "Mark Twain's World: A Symphonic Journey with Genuine Thespians," which was reviewed as being "spectacular, fascinating and wonderfully effective." The piece was deemed such a success that Chris has been named Music Alive Composer-in-Residence with the Stockton Symphony for the 2006-07 season. Other commissions have come from the legendary Skitch Henderson and the New York Pops, the U.S. Army Field Band, the Aspen Wind Quintet, the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra and the Bay Chamber Concerts of Rockport, Maine, the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and the Pittsburgh Symphony. He has written three musicals, choral works, and hundreds of songs through the years, recorded by such diverse artists as Frederica von Stade ("Across Your Dreams"), Dawn Upshaw, Bobby Womack, and Patti Labelle. The Koch International Classics recording "Bach to Brubeck" featuring Chris, Bill Crofut and Joel Brown as soloists with The London Symphony Orchestra features Chris performing his widely-played composition, "Concerto for Bass Trombone and Orchestra," along with substantial orchestral arrangements of melodies by JS Bach, and Chris' father, Dave Brubeck.

Frederica von Stade has been described by *The New York Times* as "one of America's finest artists and singers," and continues to be extolled as one of the music world's most beloved figures, the mezzo-soprano has enriched the world of classical music for three decades. Miss von Stade's career has taken her to the stages of the world's great opera houses and concert halls. She began at the top, when she received a contract from Sir Rudolf Bing at the Metropolitan Opera in the 70's and she continues to be in demand throughout the world. Her repertoire encompasses a rich variety, from the classical style of Mozart and Haydn to the popular songs of Broadway's greatest musicals; from Italian "Arie antiche" to the songs of contemporary composers—who compose especially for her—such as Dominick Argento, Jake Heggie and Chris Brubeck.

Soprano Rachel Luxon has been following a solo singing career which has taken her to perform as a soloist in theatres and concert halls throughout her native U.K. including The Barbican, The Festival Hall, The Lowry Centre, Birmingham Symphony Hall and St. David's Hall. In addition, she has performed in the USA, Germany and Italy. In addition to her performance schedule, Rachel is a popular instructor, having taught major workshops in schools for Opera North, ETO and Buxton Festival Opera.

In 2004, conductor Sara Jobin led the San Francisco Opera in performances of Puccini's *Tosca* with Carol Vaness in the title role and Wagner's "Flying Dutchman" with Juha Uusitalo and Nina Stemme. She was immediately re-engaged for four performances of Bellini's "Norma" in 2005. Ms. Jobin has also led performances for the San Francisco Opera Center, for which *Opera Magazine* praised her "cogent conducting... with distinction" and the *San Francisco Chronicle* hailed her "expertly fluid and responsive musical leadership." On the orchestral side, she founded and led the Tassajara Symphony in California for four years.

Born in Richmond, Virginia, Maestro **Paul Freeman** has established himself as one of America's leading conductors. In 1987, he became the founding music director of the Chicago Sinfonietta. In 1996, he was appointed music director and chief conductor of the Czech National Symphony Orchestra in Prague, a position he holds simultaneously with his Chicago Sinfonietta post. From 1979 to 1989, he served as music director of the Victoria Symphony in Canada, principal guest conductor of the Helsinki Philharmonic in Finland, associate conductor of the Dallas and Detroit Symphony Orchestras, and music director of the Opera Theatre of Rochester, New York. A recipient of the Mahler Award for the European Union of Arts, Freeman is in constant demand as a guest conductor, having led more than 100 orchestras in over 30 countries. As one of America's most successful recording conductors, he has approximately 200 releases to his credit. His nine-LP series tracing the history of Black symphonic composers from 1750 to the present garnered a great deal of attention on the Columbia label in the mid-1970s. He has been nominated for two Emmy Awards and has received rave reviews for his recordings. The December 2000 issue of *Fanfare* magazine proclaimed Maestro Freeman "one of the finest conductors our nation has produced."

KOCH International Classics, now in its fifteenth year, has recorded music of every nation and time period, but it is the label's commitment to the works of contemporary American composers that has earned acclaim from both critics and champions of new music. For more information on Chris Brubeck or any of the performers on *Convergence*, or to request a review copy, please contact James Scileppi at 516-484-1000 x 243 or james.scileppi@kochent.com.

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