

duo Jalal

Reviews

Kathryn Lockwood, Viola
Yousif Sheronick, Percussion



"We might live in a global village, but it has produced few transnational musical pairings like Australian-born violist Kathryn Lockwood and her husband, Lebanese-born percussionist Yousif Sheronick. Based in the New York City area, the musicians and their composer friends (including Philip Glass) are fearless seekers and synthesizers of disparate instruments and cultures. My favourite track here is the sneakily seductive 'Klezmer à la Bechet,' a 1997 piece that composer David Krakauer adapted for this duo a couple of years ago. But there are plenty of other treats. Sheronick applies impeccable technique to a wide range of percussion tools, from the bodhran in the opening piece to a goat-hoof shaker in Glass's 'Duo for Solo Viola and Percussion.' Lockwood is all slow, sensuous allure with her bowing arm one moment, a tempest of notes the next. If this is what world music's future holds, bring on the party." *By John Terauds*

THE JORDAN TIMES

"Lockwood and Sheronick play with extraordinary technical skills and artistic talent. Their sound is some of the most musical one can hear. The warm tone of the viola is perfectly used by the artist to generate long, melancholic phrases. As for Sheronick, whether he is playing the Arabic durbakeh or the Irish bodhran drum, he makes all percussions sing and come alive. Listening to 'A Different World' is an exhilarating sonic and somewhat mystical experience. If you are looking for a change of sonic scope look no further, the new CD will more than gratify your senses." *-Jean-Claude Elias*



"Kathryn Lockwood and Yousif Sheronick in life husband and wife, compose an original duo, devoted to a repertoire decreased in time, then - as they say - *cross*, although ethnic flavors are exquisitely twisted an *aplomb* performance (at least in the viola) to represent the keystone of this beautiful work, pages powered by various composers. The oriental accent that hovers over the entire work becomes especially palpable, with its soft charm in "Jubb Jannin," while the Sicilian Camemi ascends to a greater

charm in the possession of the body. The three "scenes" composed by Patitucci, calibrated as formally impeccable harmony with the bow / drum stretched to its maximum levels. Sure: the suggestions are quite unique, but the class of the two performers is unquestionable."

-Albert Bazzurro

TheaterJones

San Antonio's *Musical Bridges Around the World* presented one of the most exciting and memorable musical events you could imagine. The concert featured a Galician bagpiper, two percussionists, a viola virtuoso and an accordionist. While this may sound like the list for a musicologist's scavenger hunt, it made for a wonderfully varied concert. . . . DuoJalal, an exotic duo, played traditionally composed pieces commissioned and arranged for them. Yousif Sheronick, of Lebanese descent, is another creative percussionist. He created sound by snapping his fingers at the edge of an Egyptian frame drum and dragging his foot across the Peruvian *cajon*. Kathryn Lockwood played a standard viola, but the results are anything but standard. (When is the last time you heard a viola soloist anyway?) She imitated a Japanese shakuhachi in one piece and an Electric guitar the next - she freely used non-traditional harmonies and quartertones. Their program was a fascinating collection of selections that are far from the usual music. At the end of this highly unusual concert the two groups collaborated on a wild improvisation, which brought the audience to its feet. Few of us had ever attended a concert that was so unusual and so thoroughly enjoyable. **Gregory Sullivan Isaacs**

gapplegate music review

"Kathryn Lockwood combines classical technique, a ravishing tone, and a most definite feel for the mideastern musical mode. Yousif Sheronik adds his mastery of traditional mideastern and south Asian hand drumming (frame drum, tumbek, etc.). Both artists show excellence in stylistic grasp and nuanced execution. Duo Jalal breathes a freshet of new wind into the sails of a form of music that goes back countless centuries ... The music we hear transcends those borders, sometimes. Duo Jalal does just that with a very memorable album. Very much recommended." *-Greg Edwards*