

burton / ozone duets

features selections from
their
latest release
VIRTUOSI
a side-by-side performance



The great classical composers achieved their stature by creating new works of marvel and great beauty, pieces that felt familiar, yet took the audiences to unexpected places. The works were ahead of their time, yet totally within it as well.

Gary Burton and Makoto Ozone's latest project focuses on classical works. With just vibes and piano, the arrangements are pared to their essential elegance as Gary and Makoto investigate the intentions of the original compositions with their jazz virtuosity.

The result is a program of classically hip tracks, informed by history, expanded in scope so you comprehend the music in a new way. Gary and Makoto take you to the place where Brahms got his groove back. The concert program also includes duets of the jazz classics Burton gave tribute to on his acclaimed album, FOR HAMP, RED, BAGS & CAL.



"In a duet, two performers have a face-to-face conversation. It's very interactive and intensely focused, and if the two players are in rapport, it's the most exciting music I know. Looking back on my career, it just may be my most ideal musical setting."

GARY BURTON

5 time Grammy winner vibraphonist Gary Burton and pianist Makoto Ozone have been musical collaborators for more than a decade and a half. The two met in 1983 at Berklee College of Music in Boston. At the time, Burton was a percussion and improvisation instructor, and Ozone was an extraordinarily talented student on the verge of graduation. Burton recognized skill when he saw it. He knew better than to let the young talent from Kobe, Japan, get away undiscovered.

Over the past years, these two masters of the vibraphone and piano, respectively, have been concentrating on virtuoso duet performances.

"The duo clearly inspire each other and a lot of sparks fly."

ALL MUSIC GUIDE

"VIRTUOSI's sterling performances swing like mad."

CITY LINK

"The two have long since entered a partnership as equals along with an unusually colorful repertoire that reveals the breadth of their taste and talent...by evening's end, the album title VIRTUOSI seemed more fitting than ever."

WASHINGTON POST