

REVIEWS:

Hans Werner Henze

Musica da Camera

Ensemble Dissonanzen

Mode 202

Henze is best known for bulky stage works, but his catalogue includes much chamber music, of which this disc provides an enjoyable selection. Two items are operatic spin-offs: Ein kleines Potpourris aus der Oper "Boulevard Solitude" is three movements for flute, vibraphone, harp and piano, and is followed by a violin-and-piano Sonata, based on his children's opera Pollicino.

The sturdily dissonant Toccata mistica, for piano (Ciro Longobardi), is linked to the oratorio The Raft of the Medusa, and Neue Volkslieder und Hirtengesänge, scored for bassoon, guitar and string trio, to music Henze wrote for Oedipus Rex. Carillon, Récitatif, Masque is a glistening little opus for mandolin, guitar and harp.

--- Paul Driver, *The Sunday Times (London)*, 1 February 2009