

PRIMA CLASSIC PRESENTS



# DZINTRA ERLIHA

*World-Premiere Recordings of works by  
Sharon Farber, Leanna Primiani, Lolita Ritmanis, Dace Aperāne,  
Mārīte Dombrovskā, Sabīne Ņezbere, and Ilona Breģe*

First single out on January 27th, 2023

High Resolution Audio - Studio Masters - Apple Masters - ATMOS

Digital Release UPC 197187463978  
Dolby ATMOS UPC 197187722990

The Orchard Distribution  
[www.theorchard.com](http://www.theorchard.com)

Catalog PRIMA020

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# SERENA

While working on this album, I wanted to go deeper into the thoughts, dreams, experiences and feelings of modern female composers. Most of the works included on the album are dedicated to me. These works reveal the creative interaction between myself and the composers. These interactions developed both at the time of composition as well as in the preparation for the recording: a mutual desire to listen to one another's desires, feelings and thoughts. It was a wonderfully creative time. Each one of these works is unique. Bright, dreamy colours mix with a meditative, almost surreal worldview – or even the opposite – with dramatic and expressive emotions.

These works reveal the inner essence of a woman – it is soft and brittle, but at times it is also very powerful. And very beautiful... Enjoy!

**Dzintra Erliha**

## WORKS

### SHARON FARBER

01 Ballad No.1	7:10
02 Ballad No.2	7:59

### LEANNA PRIMIANI

03 Variations	8:52
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### LOLITA RITMANIS

04 Hope	5:42
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### DACE APERĀNE

Pastorales:

05 I. New Moon	3:28
06 II. Clouds	2:57
07 III. Small Forest	2:39

### MĀRĪTE DOMBROVSKA

08 Serena	5:39
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### SABĪNE ŅEZBERE

09 Divine Feminine	5:54
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### ILONA BREĢE

Porcelain Sonata:

10 I. Morning Tea Cup	3:39
11 II. Sugar Bowl without a Lid	3:00
12 III. Hand Painted Flower Vase	3:20
13 IV. Gilded Coffee Set for the Evening	4:13

# DZINTRA ERLIHA

Pianist Dzintra Erliha, began to play piano at the age of three. Her first teachers were her parents – professional musicians, who quickly recognized her perfect pitch. Erliha studied in Latvia at the Emīls Dārziņš College of Music, the Jāzeps Mediņš Rīga College of Music, and the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, and graduated from the Master's Degree Programme with distinction. In 2013, she received her Ph.D. in Art Science.

With the support of the Marta Kundrāte-Tūtere Memorial Fund, the artist studied in Canada with the distinguished Latvian Canadian pianist Arturs Ozoliņš. She supplemented her knowledge at international pianist master classes with professors Lazar Berman, Barry Douglas, Victor Eresko, Igor Lazko, Philippe Giusiano, Birgitta Wollenweber, Zhu-Xiao-Mei, Oleg Mantur, Mūza Rubackytė, Aldona Dvarionaitė, and others.

Erliha has won awards at many international piano competitions, including the Balys Dvarionas competition in Lithuania, the Roma competition in Italy (1st Prize), the Ludmila Knezkova-Hussey Pianist Competition in Canada (3rd Prize), and the Nikolai Rubinstein Pianist Competition in France (1999, 1st Prize).

She has performed in Latvia and throughout the world: the United States, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Iceland, France, Finland, Poland, Ukraine, and elsewhere.

The pianist has recorded many albums, including *Zvaigznes skatiens / Regard de l'etoile* (piano music by Lūcijas Garūta and Olivier Messiaen, 2008) and *Kvēlot, liesmot, sadept* (vocal and instrumental chamber music by Garūta, 2010). For the 90th anniversary of Tāivaldis Ķeniņš' birth, Erliha, along with mezzo-soprano Vilma Indra Vītols, released *Tilts pār jūrām / The Bridge Across the Seas*. In 2017, she released *Citādas krāsas / Other Colours*, along with flutist Ilona Meija, and in 2018 she recorded *Ar siltu sirdi / Warmhearted*, music by Latvian composers, with all proceeds donated to charity. In 2021 she released *Ēnu spēles upē / Shadow Games in the River* (chamber music for flute, cello, and piano).

Dzintra Erliha actively performs around the world, as well as collaborating with composers, and giving master classes to aspiring pianists. In 2018, Dzintra Erliha went on a world concert tour, dedicated to Latvia's 100th anniversary, performing in Iceland; Australia – Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and in the United States – Boston, Cleveland, New Jersey, Washington DC and New York, performing both solo and with soprano Maija Kovaļevska. In 2019, Erliha toured the United States performing but also as a lecturer, together with the Ambassador of the Republic of Latvia to the United Nations Andrejs Pildegovičs.

She actively works in the field of musicology. Many of Erliha's research papers have been published, including *The Piano Music of Lūcija Garūta* (Rīga: Musica Baltica, 2007), *The Testimonies and Sound Recordings of the Contemporaries of Hermanis Brauns* (in the collection of the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, Rīga), *Lūcija Garūta: Pianist, Interpreter of Her Own Works* (Music Science Today: the Constants and Variables, 2009) and others.



## CREDITS

Produced by Edgardo Vertanessian  
Recorded at Sigulda Concert Hall "White Grand Piano", 2022  
Sound engineer: Modris Bērziņš  
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Serena is available for streaming and download on every major digital music platform worldwide, in Stereo, Hi-Resolution Studio Masters (96/24), FLAC, Apple Digital Master, and Dolby ATMOS Spatial Audio

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