

## Mary Jane Leach - Celestial Fires (1993)

Written by bluesever

Saturday, 28 September 2019 15:49 -

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1 *Bruckstück* 12:42 2 *Feu De Joie* 8:51 3 *Green Mountain Madrigal* 8:44 4 *Mountain Echoes* 11:04 5 *Trio For Duo* 10:10 6 *Ariel's Song* 10:50 Chorus – The New York Treble Singers (tracks: 1, 3, 4, 6) Conductor – Virginia Davidson (tracks: 1, 3, 4, 6) Vocals – Adrienne Edgar, Arlene Travis, Cynthia Richards-Hewes, Judith Pannill, Karen Krueger, Maureen Haley, Nancy Wertsch, Therese McCormick + Bassoon – Shannon Peet (2) Flute [Alto] – Barbara Held (5) Voice – MJ Leach (5)

Beginning from simple means -- close harmonies with phasing rhythms --, each of the 6 compositions on this CD gradually blossom in the intricacy of their exquisite movement and sound. Each uses an ensemble of instruments or voices of a similar family, which emphasizes the textural binding -- "Bruchstück," "Green Mountain Madrigal," "Mountain Echoes" and "Ariel's Song" for 8 treble voices, "Feu de Joie" for solo bassoon and 6 taped bassoons, and the illusionary "Trio for Duo" for live and taped alto flute and voice. Truly beautiful. ---"Blue" Gene Tyranny, AllMusic Review

MARY JANE LEACH is a composer/performer whose work reveals a fascination with the physicality of sound, its acoustic properties and how they interact with space. In many of her works Leach creates an other-worldly sound environment using difference, combination, and interference tones; these are tones not actually sounded by the performers, but acoustic phenomena arising from Leach's deft manipulation of intonation and timbral qualities: "an acoustic Through the Looking Glass world based on sound that the performer is not making." ---soundcloud.com

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