

Mick Rossi: 160



Innova Recordings

By Vincenzo Roggero - January 12, 2017



Originally conceived as a musical score for the documentary "Albi's Oboe" by Matt Dine, 160 (tempo used for the entire recording) moves beyond its initial purpose to become an opera itself, innovative and independent. Mick Rossi plays, besides his usual instruments such as piano and drums, various other instruments recorded live, bringing to life a masterpiece difficult to label, beyond genres.

160 is clearly a faithful mirror of the versatility of an artist that has been part of the Philip Glass ensemble since 2000, touring and recording with Paul Simon and who collaborates with artists such as Dave Douglas, Steve Bernstein, Wadada Leo Smith, Sting and Leonard Cohen just to mention a few.

The record has fifteen pieces, most of them under three minutes in length—just "Albi No. 1" reaches eight minutes—but divided in multiple segments; fifteen photograms of a movie that you can create in your own mind. In 160 we find the whimsical and frenetic energy of cartoon music, pressing and obsessive rhythmic drones, pyrotechnic boutade, dreamy sequences made by soft arpeggi, pieces of circus music and the presence of electronic music with the use of samples. However, most of all, we find Mick's incredible talent in composition and orchestration using uncommon sound sources. A phantasmagoric music world.

**Translation by Andrea Belfiore