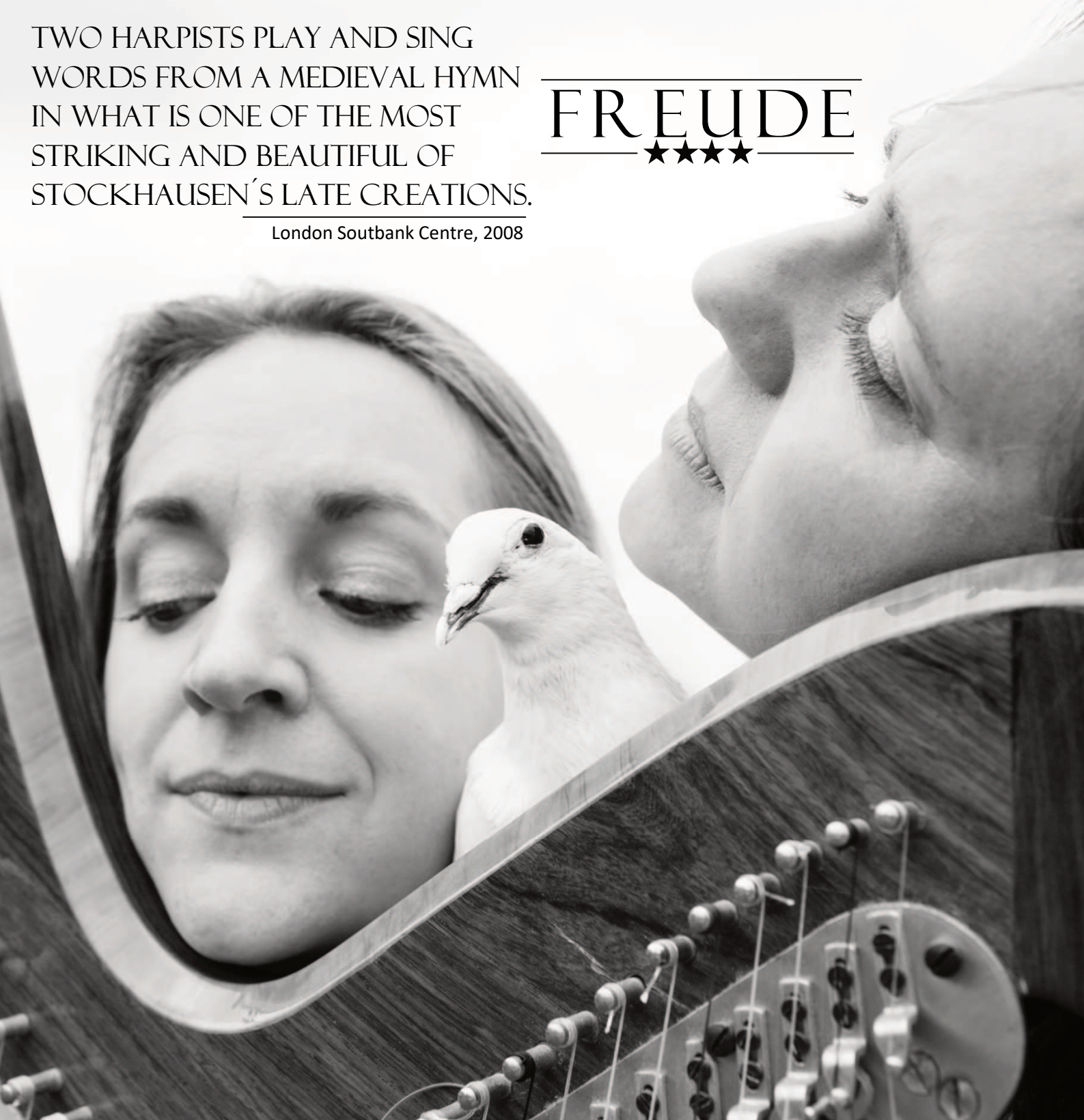


TWO HARPISTS PLAY AND SING
WORDS FROM A MEDIEVAL HYMN
IN WHAT IS ONE OF THE MOST
STRIKING AND BEAUTIFUL OF
STOCKHAUSEN'S LATE CREATIONS.

London Soutbank Centre, 2008

FREUDE



Freude ('Joy') is one of the last works of Karlheinz Stockhausen (1928-2007). In the 40-minute piece, Stockhausen combines two diatonic harps into one chromatic instrument. The fact that the harpists double as vocalists completes the synergy.

Musical Criticism, 2008: *"The uncanny beauty of this music is undoubtedly one of the pearls of Stockhausen's last years."*

Sound And Music (SAM) INTO Magazine, 2010: *"A work of beauty and intricacy, characterised by melodic fluidity and textural variety combined with a deeply resonant harmonic language."*

Freude premiered in 2006 in the Duomo of Milan and has since been performed at many great venues, including the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam and in the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London. Freude was also nominated for 'Best performance' for the Royal Philharmonic Society (RPS) Music Awards.

Harpists

Freude is performed by harpists [Marianne Smit](mailto:marianne@mariannesmit.com) and [Miriam Overlach](mailto:miriamoverlach@gmail.com). Marianne and Miriam met each other at the Conservatorium of Amsterdam, where they both graduated with honors and a special recognition for their special efforts for contemporary music. For many years, they have been specialists in contemporary music, with regular participation in – amongst others – ASKO/Schönberg, Ensemble Modern and Lucerne Festival Academy.

Marianne worked closely with Stockhausen to bring the work to completion. In the notes accompanying the score, Stockhausen wrote that he enjoyed the many months of composing so much, that he changed the original title Pflingsten (Pentecost) into Freude (Joy).

Interested?

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