



## **Press Reviews**

### **Clarity, Precision and an Abundance of Fine Technique**

By Chris Dumigan

Classical Guitar Magazine

Beginning with three contrasting sonatas by Scarlatti Forshee immediately establishes his credentials as an excellent player, with clarity, precision and an abundance of fine technique. In the long middle sonata K. 213 his emotional way of bringing out the opening section is compelling with beautiful warm playing.

Brouwer's evocative three-movement Sonata comes from an entirely different world to the foregoing. The other-worldly way it begins with a bell-like sequence of notes often on harmonics is hauntingly played. This phrase keeps returning amidst other more earthbound harmonies until gradually the dance-like elements take over more. Its rather episodic elements could, in lesser hands, sound disjointed, but here work really well. The dream world occupied by the middle movement and the relentless 3rd and final part are every bit as good, and make for a first-class recording of this work. This rather short (38 minutes) CD finishes with a fine Mallorca .

All in all this is a lovely recording spoilt somewhat by its relatively modest length. However this might be reflected in the price, and so I can confidently recommend Forshee's interpretations wholeheartedly. The recording too is excellent.

### **One of his Generation's Finest Guitarists**

Fingerstyle Guitar Magazine

Editor in Chief Bill Piburn

Zane Forshee is one of his generation's finest guitarists. He plays with a beautiful tone and virtuoso technique.

## **Guitarist Zane Forshee Gives Breathtaking Performance**

By Nyonsuatee Kollue

Retriever Weekly

Music, they say, speaks to a person's soul. The audience that gathered in the Fine Arts recital hall to listen to classical guitarist and UMBC faculty member, Zane Forshee, must indeed believe this to be true. First prize winner of the National Guitar Workshop Solo Guitar Competition, as well as the Baltimore Music Club's Strings competition, Zane Forshee struck more than guitar chords. He gently pulled on the heart strings of his listeners as he invited them to listen, enjoy, understand, and communicate with his rhythms.

The performance was a series of various classical pieces. He masterfully played harmonious, rhythmical tunes, as well as vibrant, danceable melodies, and incorporated some mixed bits that started off light, and then continued with astounding sharp chords that sent your ears tingling. He played a few sonatas as well as works of other artists that he admired. A piece whose English translation would mean "Walk a narrow path" was one of such numbers. But whichever way he played, there was a beautiful ever-flow that held the audience captivated.

Each piece (followed by loud applause) opened into another equally breathtaking number. The slower melodies seemed to greatly appeal to the more mature audience as they gazed upon the artist. The younger attendees bobbed their heads and swayed lightly to vibrant tunes. You could hear quiet whispers of, "He's good!" from various audience members. However, the enjoyment in this performance was not limited to the audience alone. The artist himself seemed lost in the sound of his instrument. He played every chord with soul, swaying gently and tapping his feet as he played. Watching him, you would not only listen, but feel the music as much as he did.

His performance left the audience deeply satisfied. After listening to him, his achievements seem only natural for someone with his skills. Anyone with a good ear for music would greatly appreciate the style and spirit of his music, as he deeply expresses the beauty of classical guitar in his performance.

## **Superb Musical and Technical Skill**

By Timothy Smith

Minor7th.com

In his debut disc, Zane Forshee has selected several iconic classical guitar works through which he displays his unique musical voice. Although typically recognized for his interpretation of contemporary works, of the three composers featured on the CD, the Sonata by Leo Brouwer is the only 20th century work presented. Dispelling any question as to his competency when handling earlier works, Forshee opens with three popular Sonatas by Domenico Scarlatti. The three Sonatas cover a wide range of drama and tempo, and highlight Forshee's superb musical and technical skill. The Brouwer Sonata that follows is one of this composers most critically acclaimed and widely known works. Throughout the first movement Forshee does an excellent job of maintaining the anxious and turbulent essence of the music, which is then tastefully released through is delicate and peaceful rendition of the second movement. The recording closes with the familiar Mallorca by Isaac Albéniz, which contrasts nicely with the works by Scarlatti and Brouwer. Overall the disc is an excellent introduction to Forshee's musical voice, and I look forward to hearing more from him in the future.

## **Critics Pick**

By Nick Dimarco

Baltimore City Paper

As the old adage goes, those who cannot do, teach. Apparently, Zane Forshee didn't get the memo. The nationally recognized award-winning guitarist has toured around the country, delighting audiences with his eclectic guitar performances. Back in Baltimore, the contemporary soloist takes the stage at UMBC, just one of the four institutions where he's on the faculty. For true music fans, do not miss out on the chance to learn a thing or two from the man who makes music his life in the classroom and on stage.