





**Frank Rothkamm** (\*1965) lives and works in Los Angeles

10/10/09 FLX11 CD "Ghost of New York"

11/11/09 FLX12 CD "**Zahra Fugues**"

12/12/09 FLX13 DVD "Birth of Cinema from the Spirit of Sound"

01/01/10 FLX14 CD "Amerika"

The second release from **Frank Rothkamm's** epic 3 CD + 1 DVD **TETRALOGY** series - **Zahra Fugues** - is the first non electronic, all acoustic release by **Rothkamm** since his **Chamber Ensemble** written in 1984.

Within these 26 mini-masterpieces you'll hear composer/pianist **Rothkamm's** prodigious digits plunder the fugue form as he imaginatively slices/dices and deconstructs/reconstructs every flourish, sequence, cadence, cliché and rule from **Gioseffo Zarlino's** classical playbook **The Art of Counterpoint**. And he pulls this off with a sense of humor worthy of **Thelonious Monk** and with a sense of drama and energy reminiscent of **Glenn Gould**.

**Frank Rothkamm** is the consummate modern composer/performer. As evidenced in **Zahra Fugues**, one hears a love of, as well as a depth of knowledge of, the rules of the fugue that makes **Rothkamm's** iconoclastic vision come off so effortlessly. To break rules one must truly understand them. Within **Zahra Fugues**, **Rothkamm** consistently shows us how a fugue can seamlessly morph from a short sequence that would easily fit a Victorian-era tea parlor before instantly dropping the listener into a series of **Anton Webernian** styled intervals that darkly twist, tangle, and turn before quickly giving us an ending flourish played at a speed and level of precision that would knock **Conlon Nancarrow** out of his chair. *Stephen Goldstein*

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