



TIM GARLAND

Libra

Lighthouse Trio: Tim Garland (sax), Gwilym Simcock (piano), Asaf Sirkis (percussion);
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Global Mix GM2CD03 107:10 mins (2 discs)

BBCMusic Direct **£12.72**

This is an unmissable mixture of trio and trio-plus-orchestra pieces which succeeds in both amounting to and exceeding the sum of its disparate parts. Saying that Garland is skilled at orchestrating around a jazz player/unit misses the point, as the orchestral element here is more evocative of Messiaen, Stravinsky or (in playful moments) Corigliano than what we might think of as typical of jazz. The music is unashamedly contemporary, but Garland's command of his material allows it to accommodate a wide range of ingredients, ranging from traces of neo-Romanticism to country blues and from the strings of the soundtrack composer to the thwacking percussion of a modernist; Garland's horn riffs rise from this hotbed of musical activity like graceful serpents. *Roger Thomas*

PERFORMANCE ★★★★★

RECORDING ★★★★★