Review of 20 Miniatures by Matthew Dunne (GSP)

From Classical Guitar Magazine, May 2012

These pieces were composed in 2009 after the composer, Matthew Dunne, received a grant from the Artist Foundation of San Antonio.

Without exception all are extremely well-written by a highly skilled composer who understands well the intricacies, nuances and characteristics of the guitar. Within these diminutive, well-devised works one can hear influences of jazz, folk, South America and other styles but however disguised these influences sometimes are the composer's personal stamp shines through; here is a very clever writer.

Although not indicated as such, these could very easily be designated as guitar studies and would provide excellent material for the intermediate student, they certainly cover a lot of ground both technically and also from an interpretative perspective.

With none of the items outstaying their welcome, these pieces are some of the best and most worthy contemporary solo guitar works that I've come across in quite a while.

The presentation is excellent with clear printing and intelligent, not excessive fingering. The recording, by Matthew Dunne, is in itself well worthy of listening to; it has a nice sound quality and illustrates the composer's performing skill. There are slight discrepancies between the printed score and recording with regards to slurs but in the preface the composer does invite players to use their own discretion with regards to interpretation.

Very highly recommended.

Steve Marsh, Classical Guitar Magazine