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WASHINGTON, DC, JANUARY 17, 2025: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE. Following the release of her debut album, *WINGS* in 2024, composer Rami Levin returns with another distinctive album of chamber music. *Silk Apples: Chamber Music by Rami Levin* features some of Chicago’s finest classical artists produced by GRAMMY®-nominated Geoffrey Silver and vividly captured by multi-GRAMMY®-award-winning engineer Bill Maylone. *Silk Apples* solidifies Levin’s reputation as a composer of extraordinary imagination with a particular gift for chamber music. Her *WINGS* was celebrated for its “cleverly crafted” compositions (*The Classical Review*) and “imaginative, diverse” pieces that draw inspiration from her global experiences (*Textura*). Its “charmingly lyrical and programmatic themes” include a “haunting and beautiful” work for viola and a “stunningly lovely wind quintet” (*CD HotList*).

The lineup for *Silk Apples*, featuring some of Chicago’s most in-demand artists, will be familiar to classical music lovers. Described by *Gramophone* as “relentlessly mellifluous,” The Cavatina Duo (flutist Eugenia Moliner and guitarist Denis Azabagić) perform the title track, where Levin draws on the Brazilian choro, characterized by fast tempi, syncopation, and counterpoint. The cross-cultural infusion continues with the Brazilian rhythms of “Danças brasileiras” performed by the virtuosic powerhouse Quintet Attacca (Ensemble-in-Residence at the Music Institute of Chicago). Violist Anthony Devroye and cellist Cheng-Hou Lee of the Avalon String Quartet (“a remarkable, electrifying ensemble” [*The Strad*]) shine in Levin’s three- movement piano trio with highly sought-after Chicago pianist Kuang-Hao Huang. Huang is joined by Quintet Attacca members Jennifer Clippert (flute), and Barbara Drapcho (clarinet), in “Dualidades,” an exploration of living in two different cultures. Award-winning pianist Winston Choi joins Huang in the four-hand duo “Dois Irmãos” (named after “Two Brothers Mountain” in Rio de Janeiro), a work inspired by Levin’s twin grandsons that features both identical and diverging parts, reflecting the unique bond of siblings.

The song cycle “This Much and More” is performed by soprano Amy Broadbent, member of elite military chorus the U.S. Navy Sea Chanters, and renowned for her “consummate poise, limpid clarity, and faultless intonation” onstage (*Washington Classical Review*). Here Levin sets three poems by American women on themes of love, separation, longing, and the inevitable human foibles of the beloved. Broadbent is sensitively accompanied by Kuang-Hao Huang.

“This album showcases some of my chamber music written over the past two decades” says Levin, and the tracks represent her artistic output in two cultures and languages. The recipient of a Fulbright lecture/research award, Levin draws inspiration from her time in Brazil, blending rhythmic vitality with rich harmonic language to create works that are as thought-provoking as they are enjoyable. Her catalog includes works for solo instruments, chamber ensembles, chorus, and orchestra that have been recorded and performed internationally.

Levin has received commissions from Chicago Symphony Orchestra musicians, the Connecticut Arts Council, London's Morley Wind Group, American String Teachers Association, Chicago Pro Musica, Vision Saxophone Quartet, the University of Chicago Motet Choir, His Majesty's Clerkes, Jubilate Children's Choir, Chicago Choral Artists, Quintet Attacca, and the Rembrandt Chamber Players, among others. She received a B.A. from Yale University, an M.A. in composition from the University of California, San Diego, and a Ph.D. in composition from the University of Chicago. For more information, please visit her website: ramilevin.com

“Silk Apples: Chamber Music by Rami Levin” drops APRIL 4, streaming on all platforms, and will be available on CD and digital download from the Label.

Title: Silk Apples: Chamber Music by Rami Levin

UPC: 198004453998 (CD)

UPC: 198937240818(Streaming)

Cat #: APL53998

Duration: 56'12”

Release date: April 4, 2025

DPK: SoundCloud, PDF BOOKLET, printable covers, composer portrait, links to artist bios, download audio: bit.ly/Levin-Silk-Apples_DPK

Album page for consumers (*goes live one month before release*).

<https://www.acisproductions.com/silk-apples-chamber-music-by-rami-levin>

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