

SHARON ISBIN: *AFFINITY* - World Premiere Recordings
Top *Billboard* Classical Charts, #2 Amazon Bestseller Classical
BEST OF 2020: SiriusXM & more



“Isbin’s terrific latest recording evinces a wonderful talent for making fully hers what was written for her ... Chris Brubeck’s concerto for guitar and orchestra *Affinity* is a single-movement work in three sections: the first bright, jazzy and energetic; the second, based on a melody by his father, jazz great Dave Brubeck, mellow and Chopin-haunted; the third a whirling percussive dance infused with foot-tapping Brazilian and Middle Eastern vibes. Isbin gives a sparkling, virtuoso account that neatly underscores Brubeck’s bountiful musical syncretism” ***Gramophone***

“Deliriously romantic ... shimmering, thoughtful and poignant” ***All About Jazz***

“What variety! Coupled with Brubeck’s full-spectrum stylistic writing and effective orchestration, Isbin’s expressive and crystal-clear playing make this a must-have for any fan of the guitar concerto! In a dramatic, contemporary-sounding work by Chinese composer Tan Dun, widely contrasting sections that sound effortless thanks to Isbin’s technical strengths and obvious total involvement with this music... Excellent new music for the guitar” ***American Record Guide***

“Highly energetic, melodically infectious, and colorfully scored, *Affinity* is a real crowd pleaser, and with her immaculate and fleet-footed technique Isbin does it proud ... Excellent engineering ensures both textural clarity and a perfect balance... Isbin is a natural storyteller and is in her element here, putting on a virtuoso display full of light, shade, and manual dexterity.” ***Musical America Worldwide***

“Exhilarating passages of modern classical composition to jazz, samba, and Middle Eastern sounds ... In Danielpour’s *Of Love and Longing*, guitar and voice are perfectly matched ... Isabel Leonard is one of the finest mezzo-sopranos in the world, and her previous collaboration with Isbin is one of the greatest voice/guitar albums ever recorded.” ***Soundboard***

“Extraordinary guitarist Sharon Isbin delivers some fantastic music ... It seems to be tapping into something timeless and beautiful and powerful ... uniting us with each other and with the planet itself.” ***New Jazz Releases***

“Beautiful, simply divine new album ... Whirlingly stupendous majesty” ***Carlini CD Reviews***

“When it comes to awards and critical accolades, the fountain never stops for those praising the brilliance and diversity of classical guitarist Sharon Isbin ... *Affinity*, a sweeping collection which finds the guitarist showcasing alternately gentle and reflective and wildly rhythmic and soaring new inspirational works by an array of celebrated international composers ... A most impressive musical journey.” ***JW Vibe***

“Truly sweetly spontaneous guitar magic ... you’re going to be totally enthralled ... [Brubeck concerto] is THE BEST guitar composition I’ve heard (yet) in 2020! **MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**” ***Contemporary Fusion Reviews***

“Isbin’s guitar work is simply stunning on the beautifully done album *Affinity*.” ***JP’s Music Blog***

“Isbin shows just how much she has in common with rock stars by presenting a program of specially commissioned, debut works and doing with the ease of Petula Clark calling up Tony Hatch and saying "whatcha got for me?" Right up there with the classics of the genre, give it a little time and it will be acknowledged as one of the classics of the genre. Great, killer playing throughout.” ***Midwest Record***

“**Marco Polo and Mastermind of a Silk Road Project Of Her Own.** The guitar phenomenon Isbin knows no borders ... conjuring kaleidoscopic moods, dreamy, wild, densely textured, lighter than air.” ***BeyondCriticism***

“*Affinity* is an impressive undertaking that offers a modern take on recurring themes from Isbin’s prolific career. Most notably, her virtuosity and commitment to broadening the repertoire of the instrument through commissioned works ... Brubeck’s writing showcases Isbin in both technique and grace, providing an opening to the disc that is exciting.” ***The WholeNote***

“Incredible guitar playing from Isbin unfolds with precision and timelessness that almost takes on a cinematic quality with jazz sensibilities ... acrobatic prowess ... Now with a pair of stunning albums in 2020, the multiple Grammy Winner again solidifies why she’s so globally revered for her craft.” ***Take Effect Reviews***

“Intricate and romantic fingerwork with modern Iberian tones and sweeping strings.” ***Jazz Weekly***

“Flawless nylon string playing ... six-string work of the highest order.” ***Jazziz Magazine***

ALBUM OF THE WEEK “We love the new album!” ***SiriusXM***