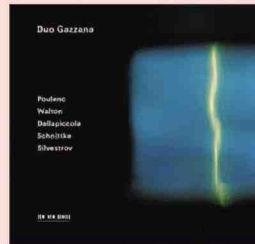




### **Duo Gazzana** *Classical*

There's a deceptive kind of reticence to this new release by the Italian sister act of violinist Natascia Gazzana and pianist Raffaella Gazzana — no title, no obvious headline repertoire. But tucked within is a series of marvelous surprises, including a well-chosen program and beautifully vibrant execution. The thematic link among the five offbeat works turns out to be a close relationship with music of the past, from the overt archaisms of Alfred Schnittke's "Suite in the Old Style" to Valentin Silvestrov's "Homage à J.S.B.," which runs some of Bach's musical mannerisms through a loving but acerbic series of transformations. Poulenc's neo-Classical Violin Sonata is probably the best-known work on offer, and the sisters give it a sharp-edged, eloquent rendition. But for me, the disc's great prize comes at the end, with a dynamic and rich account of "Tartiniana seconda" by the Italian modernist Luigi Dallapiccola — a gorgeous but tough-minded tribute to the Baroque master Giuseppe Tartini and his innovations in the world of the violin.



**DUO GAZZANA  
MUSIC FOR  
VIOLIN AND  
PIANO  
ECM NEW  
SERIES  
\$18.99**

— Joshua Kosman

