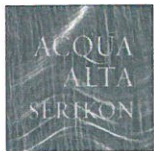


ACQUA ALTA

Serikon / Daniel Stighall & Erik Westberg (dirs)

Footprint FRCD 073 [79:30]



Cultures collide in Venice in this ear-teasing programme, leading the imagination on exotic journeys. 17th-century *maestri* – the Gabriellis, Merulo, Willaert, Castello, Rovetta and Barbara Strozzi – encounter new works from Alexander

Campkin and Jan Sandström, each evoking aspects of *La Serenissima*, all characterised by brilliant playing and delicious singing in an intensely immediate recording of sensuous depth – you can almost touch each instrument and taste its sound. The early works are masterfully realised, but it is the modern composers' skilful employment of early instruments that is impressively organic. A radiant disc: iridescent as the silk of the group's name.

REBECCA TAVENER

