

# Mp3 Armand Coeck - Wouter Vercruysse - Nightbird



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Inspired by Mother Nature in all its forms, this beautiful enchanting music for cello and guitars is a moving confrontation for those who are seeking authenticity and profoundness in life. 8 MP3 Songs CLASSICAL: Contemporary, WORLD: Western European Show all album songs: Nightbird Songs Details: Nightbird is a CD-tribute to the complete oeuvre of works for cello by Armand Coeck. All of the works were written in collaboration with cellist Wouter Vercruysse; who, not coincidentally, gave the premieres of these works. Armand Coeck (1941, Menen, Belgium) has established himself as a self-taught expert in guitar and composition. His first compositions date back to 1957. In 1961 and '62 he shared the spotlight with Joaquin Rodrigo and Sainz de la Maza in the prestigious Coupe Internationale de la Guitare composition competition held in Paris. Since that time, he has been highly in demand for concerts throughout the Flanders region of Belgium, as well as in prominent cultural centres such as Brussels, Paris, and Madrid. To his credit are performances for both radio and television. In 1961, Jan Decadt appointed Coeck as a guitar instructor at the Peter Benoit Academy of Music in Harelbeke. He remained a teacher at the academy until 1997, prior to which he earnestly performed his teaching duties with great enthusiasm and creativity. As one of the pioneers of guitar training in Flanders, he is accountable for the development and success of many guitarists performing and teaching professionally today. Also in 1997, Prima la Musica premiered his Concerto for Guitar and Chamber Orchestra in the Courtray City Theatre with soloist Carlos Bonell on guitar. The Festival of Flanders commissioned the concerto. Thanks in part to CD and DVD recordings by performers such as Gino Herman, Simon Dinnigan, Jad Azkoul, and Hughes Kolp; Coeck's compositional work has sparked international attention. Wouter Vercruysse (1981, Courtray, Belgium) studied with Judith Ermert at the Royal Conservatory of Ghent, where he graduated magna cum laude in 2006 with a Masters in Music Performance. Prior to his studies with Ms. Ermert, he received private

training from Jan Van Kelst at the Courtray City Conservatory, where he completed his studies with highest honours. Furthermore, he has studied with Yo-Yo Ma, Alexander Rudin, Lluís Claret, and Viviane Spanoghe; and has been coached in chamber music by Filip Rath (Spectra Ensemble), Rainer Schmidt (Hagen Quartet), and Claus-Christian Schuster (Altenberg Trio of Vienna). Since 1997, Armand Coeck has been Vercruysse's personal mentor, under whose tutelage he has been able to expand his skills as a guitarist, improviser, composer, and chamber musician. To date, Vercruysse has been the recipient of several performance awards, including a 1st prize in the Province-wide Valkaart Competition of 1998, the Rotary Prize of 2000 in Courtray, and the 1st prize in Dexia Bank's National Axion Classics Competition for Music and Dramatic Arts in Brussels in the year 2000. As a chamber musician, he has given many concerts throughout Flanders and has performed in highly prestigious concert halls such as the Cité de la Musique in Paris, the Seiji Ozawa Hall (Tanglewood, U.S.A.), and Carnegie Hall in New York City. While under the mentorship of Yo-Yo Ma, Wouter debuted in Zankels Carnegie Hall together with the Silk Road Ensemble. Gino Herman (1962, Harelbeke, Belgium) was one of the most talented pupils of Armand Coeck's teaching career. In fact, it was for Gino's final examination at the Peter Benoit Academy of Music in Harelbeke that Coeck composed his now internationally acclaimed work *Constellations*. In the past, Gino Herman has been awarded a National Medal for Excellence in the Arts by the Belgian Government as well as a top prize in the National Guitar Competition in Alost, Belgium. Since 1987, Gino has given numerous concerts, both locally and internationally, and has participated in a variety of radio and television recordings. In 1991 he released his first CD as a part of the "In Flanders Fields" series. The CD, titled *Gino Herman plays Armand Coeck*, an anthology with solo masterworks composed by friend, teacher, and composer Armand Coeck. Following this project, he contributed to the Jan Decadt 80 recording project as well as recordings of chamber music by Armand Coeck. Since 1991, he has taught at the Peter Benoit Academy of Music as Armand Coeck's successor. Joris D'Haene (1987) studied with Micheline Dumortier at the Peter Benoit Academy of Music, where he completed his secondary education with highest honours in classical guitar. During that time, he participated in masterclasses with guitarists Yves Storms and concurrently took private lessons with Armand Coeck. Joris D'Haene took home the grand prize of the 1997 province-wide Vermeylen Foundation Classical Guitar Competition, the Alost Young Artists Competition for Guitar in 1995, '97 and 2002, as well as the Coastal Young Soloists Competition in Ostend in 2004. Joris additionally won prizes in Young Tenuto in 2001 and Axion Classics

in 2005. Translation: Bryan A. Crumpler

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