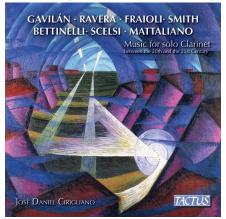**Music for Solo Clarinet, Josè Daniel Cirigliano TACTUS TC930002**
Review by John Cipolla, 8 July 2020

I must say that I have an affinity towards pushing the boundaries of sound possibilities when listening to music played on the clarinet, an instrument that has an inherently homogenous timbre. Josè Daniel Cirigliano's recording *Music for Solo Clarinet* does this in a uniquely captivating fashion. The recording features music from Italian composers Guido López GAVILÁN (b.1944) Clariloquio (2008), Alessandra RAVERA (b.1977) La scatola del tempo (2006), Antonio FRAIOLI (b.1966) 4 Pezzi (2012) I miei occhi (2017), William O SMITH (b.1922) Meditations (1990) Five Pieces (1959), Bruno BETTINELLI (1933-2004) Studio da concerto (1971), Giacinto SCELSI (1905-1988) Ixor II (1954), Giovanni MATTALIANO (b.1969) Zeta World (2011) as well as from American clarinetist and composer, William O. Smith. Cirigliano's beautifully expressive sound and his wide palette of expressive and technical capabilities challenge the listener to engage in a listening experience where one can focus on his interpretive ideas through each seemingly complex contemporary work for solo clarinet, while simultaneously allowing the listener to engage in this music in a completely opposite manner– one in which the listener simply relaxes and takes in the tapestry of colors he paints. In my own listening experience, I find my attention leans towards the second approach. Trusting the artist to guide me through their impression of form, structure and spirit in each work. Cirigliano escorts the listener on a sonic journey through carefully selected, beautifully comprehensible late twentieth and early twenty-first century solo clarinet music. This recording is an important contribution to the canon of important clarinet repertoire. More importantly, though, it takes the listener through this music in a uniquely solitary manner, with the focus on Cirigliano's deep and pensive expressions of these important mostly Italian composers' works. Enjoy!