



## **Sven Kacirek**

### ***The Kenya Sessions***

Pingipung CD/DL

Drummer and marimba man Sven Kacirek's reputation has been built on the jazz side of things, so *The Kenya Sessions* comes as a welcome new tangent. The 15 sessions are the result of field recordings – several major local artists appear, including vocalist Ogoya Nengo and nyaytiti (a kind of Benga lute) Okumo Korengo – that have been reworked back home in Hamburg. Kacirek's compositional presence is audible here, but in much of this, he allows the Kenyan music to do its own work. "Maria", which includes a melodic motif of local singers from Kwale – a bit of spontaneous recording – is a closely patterned hocketed work that recalls Steve Reich. Far from being a simple series of impressions – all the Kenyans here are rightly credited as co-authors and collaborators – its fascination endures.