In June 2003, in my very first "Music in the Round" column (www.stereo phile.com/musicintheround/854/), I mentioned Starkland's first DVD-A, the appropriately titled Immersion (Starkland S-2010), as a glowing example of new music composed specifically for multichannel recording. One of the many outstanding works on that disc was Phil Kline's The Housatonic at Henry Street. Here are two full discs of Kline's ear-opening adventures, beginning with a reprise of that very piece. Listening to this adventurous music is no sterile or abstract experience. Kline's music ranges widely from ambient recordings that are surprisingly musical, to complex constructions that emerge as lyrical. Though images accompany the pieces, I found



"ear-opening adventures... Kline's music ranges widely from ambient recordings that are surprisingly musical, to complex constructions that emerge as lyrical...The accompanying DVD offers... a fascinating interview with Kline."



them inessential. The accompanying DVD offers live video for one work, *Meditation*, and a fascinating interview with Kline. Dolby and DTS tracks provide access to the multichannel music for those without DVD-A players, as stereo simply will not do: This music must be experienced as much as heard.

-Kalman Rubinson



www.starkland.com