

Izumi Kuremoto



Late Chrysanthemums

SHOTPEEN. [CD/DL/DVD](#)

**Modern Japanese classical
composer unloads '90s and
'00s treasure trove.**



Izumi
Kuremoto is a
rare find. The
inventive New
York-based
composer,

capable of plucking heartstrings via the sparest of arrangements, has supported his art scurrying around the Big Apple as a cycle courier. The frenetic pace of his day-to-day is reflected on the disorienting, filmic Opening, swathes of swirling Eno-esque electronic ambience underscoring brooding violins and Judith McIntyre's earthy, operatic soprano. Shades of Iannis Xenakis's *Metastasis* surface on elegant solo violin score *Venus*, while the Brooklyn String Quartet reveal an altogether jauntier side on *Three Movements For Harp & Strings*. Inspired by Mikio Naruse's post-war film classic, the title track pits Ellen Groningen's scordatura viola against Eric Phinney's spare vibes, allowing delicate glass slipper melodies to coalesce in a breathtaking denouement.

Andy Cowan