

CAROL RINA SHANSKY – WOMEN’S POETIC VOICE: MUSIC FOR SOLO FLUTE

PROGRAM NOTES:

**Bati I’gani** (2003) by Meira Warshauer (b. 1949) offers glimpses of intimacy between lovers, between G-d and His/Her creation, the delight of recognition: Divine goodness flowing into the world. Inspired by Song of Songs, 5:1:

I have come into my garden,  
My sister bride.  
I have gathered my myrrh with my spices,  
I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey,  
I have drunk my wine with my milk

**Four Glimpses of Night** (c. 2015) by Binnette Lipper (1939-2016): Inspired by a poem of the same title written by Frank Marshall Davis, this four-movement piece reflects the poem’s sections. Expressive writing, searching, fluid lines in varying rhythmic patterns with changing tempi and shifting moods, create a sense of magical wonder and lightness of spirit, as if the music accompanies the four vignettes.

I  
Eagerly  
Like a woman hurrying to her lover  
Night comes to the room of the world  
And lies, yielding and content  
Against the cool round face  
Of the moon.

II  
Night is a curious child, wandering  
Between earth and sky, creeping  
In windows and doors, daubing  
The entire neighborhood  
With purple paint.  
Day  
Is an apologetic mother  
Cloth in hand  
Following after.

III  
Peddling  
From door to door  
Night sells  
Black bags of peppermint stars  
Heaping cones of vanilla moon  
Until  
His wares are gone  
Then shuffles homeward  
Jingling the gray coins  
Of daybreak.

IV  
Night’s brittle song, sliver-thin  
Shatters into a billion fragments  
Of quiet shadows  
At the blaring jazz  
Of a morning sun.

**Yefei Nof** (1978) “A Beautiful View” by Yardena Alotin (1930-1994) is inspired by Psalm 48 (Psalm of the Sons of Korah), “Beautiful in its loftiness, the joy of the whole earth.”

**A Flutist’s Garden of Verses** (2020) by Elaine Fine (b. 1959) draws on the poetry of Robert Louis Stevenson’s *A Child’s Garden of Verses*. The arrangement for C flute, alto flute and bass flute was done at the request of Carol Shansky.

I. The Swing:

Up in the air and over the wall,  
Till I can see so wide,  
Rivers and trees and cattle and all  
Over the countryside –

II. Foreign Lands

The dusty roads to up and down  
With people tramping in to town.  
If I could find a higher tree  
Farther and farther I should see,

### III. My Shadow

I have a little shadow that goes in and out with  
me,  
And what can be the use of him is more than I  
can see.

### IV. My Bed is a Boat

My bed is like a little boat;  
Nurse helps me in when I embark;  
She girds me in my sailor's coat  
And starts me in the dark.

### V. Singing

Of speckled eggs the birdie sings  
And nests among the trees...  
The organ with the organ man  
Is singing in the rain.