from The Diary of Izumi Shikibu
Translated by: Willis Barnstone

On this winter night
my eyes were closed
with ice.
I wore out the darkness
until lazy dawn.

From darkness
I go onto the road
of darkness.
Moon, shine on me from far
over the mountain edge.

Someone else
looked at the sky
with the same rapture
when the moon
crossed the dawn.

You told me it was
because of me
you gazed at the moon.
I've come to see
if this is true.

You wear the face
of someone awake
in the icy air,
seeing the moon we saw
in our night of no sleep.

Since that night
I cannot know myself.
I go to unheard of places
and sleep recklessly
on a strange bed.

I left my hills,
struggled along a dark
worldly way,
for I still hunger
to be with you again.
PROGRAM

Prelude in F# minor (1925)
Proposition for Piano (1991)
  Allen Shawn, piano

Nocturne and Toccata (1943)
  Elizabeth Wright, piano

February Foibles (1991)
  4 pieces for solo trombone
    I, II, III, IV
  Gerald Zaffuts

Three Reflections (1986)
  after reading James Thomson (B.V.)
  Maxine Neuman, 'cello
    Allen Shawn, piano

INTERMISSION

7 Songs from The Diary of Izumi Shikibu (1982)
  Shannon Jones, soprano
    Lionel Nowak, piano

Soundscape for String Quartet (1970)
  Curtis Macomber, violin
    Joel Lester, violin
    Jacob Glick, viola
    Michael Finckel, 'cello