

CT 465

Music at Bennington Presents . . .

Senior Concert

Sheila E. Lewandowski

MONDAY
MAY 19, 1997 8:00 P.M.

DEANNE CARRIAGE BARN
BENNINGTON COLLEGE

drawing by,
Meredith Butner &
Heather Milne



I

All pieces in the first half of tonight's program are premiere performances.

Rebekah Pym, composer

"Dark Street"

text, James Tate

"Of Emiliano Guzmán"

text, Michael Heffernan

Todd Tarantino, composer

"the moon is hiding in her hair"

text, E. E. Cummings

"Stay, O' Sweet"

anonymous (Elizabethan)

Sheila Lewandowski, voice
Amy Williams, piano

* Hong Ting, composer

"Farewell"

text, Li Bai (Tang Dynasty)

"National Border"

"Mad Bee"

text, Su Huan (Song Dynasty)

"Bamboo Sticks"

"Haio"

Sheila Lewandowski, voice
Guy Rauscher violin
Hong Ting, gu-zheng
Amy Williams, prepared piano

* *1996-97 John Hendrick Memorial Commission*

- Intermission -

Program Notes

"Of Emiliano Guzman"
based on the poem, "Naked War,"
by Michael Heffernan

The swarthy little statue
Of Emiliano Guzmán
stood by the greensward
beckoning, beckoning

Fart, mad ducks, fart!
I manfully exhorted.
Then all about us rose
the reft applause of ducky angelus.

Walruses idled in the estuaries.

"Dark Street"
based on the poem of the same
name by James Tate

So this is the dark street
where only an angel lives:
I never saw anything like it.
For the first time in a lifetime
I feel the burgeoning of wings
somewhere behind my frontal lobes.
So this is the dark street.
Did his lights come on,
or do I dream?
I never saw anything like it.

Even the trees' languorous leaves
look easy to touch.
So this is the dark street.
Here he comes now:
good afternoon, Father--
your handshake is so pleasing.
Brush the shards from my shoulders,
what lives we have ahead of us!
So this is the dark street.
I never saw anything like it.

"Emiliano Guzmán, mad duck, farts and dark streets - I'm positive there is a relation. More seriously though, it was a joy to write for you, Sheila. Every blessing." - *Rebekah*

"the moon is hiding in her hair"
based on the poem of the same
name by E. E. Cummings

the moon is hiding in
her hair.
The
lily
of heaven
full of all dreams,
draws down.

cover her briefness in singing
clothe her with intricate faint birds
by daisies and twilights
Deepen her,

Recite
upon her
flesh
the rain's

pearls singly whispering

"Stay, O Sweet"
anonymous (Elizabethan)

Stay, O Sweet and do not rise,
Stay, O Sweet do not rise,
The light that shines comes from
thine eyes.
The day breaks not it is my heart.
Because that you and I must part.

Stay or else my joys will die.
Stay or else my joys will die and
perish in their infancy.

"Recently I have been working on realizations of Schutz's work. Indeed working with my own songs presented some of the same problems as working with those of Schutz. I have tried to keep the integrity of the originals while at the same time revising them with the ideas that strike me now, five to six years later, in mind. I have tried to strike a happy medium between the two. These songs have never seen the light of day. I heartily thank Sheila for her time and perseverance with them." -- *Todd Tarantino*

'Farewell'

based on a poem by Li Bai (Tang Dynasty)
Written at the parting of Li Bai and his
contemporary, Du Fu; two of the greatest
poets in 8th century China.

醉别复几月,
drunk/ apart/ 'til meet again/ how many/ days

登临遍池台。
climb up/ to/ full/ pond/ platform

秋波落泗水,
Autumn/ ripple/ drop/ - / water

海色明银练。
Sea/ color/ bright/ to/ & from

何时石门路,
what/ time/ stone/ gate/ trail

重有金樽开?
Again/ let's have/ golden/ goblet/ click

飞蓬各自远。
Fly/ full-wing/ respective/ way/ far-away

且尽手中杯。
For now/ empty/ hand/ in/ cup

*This song cycle is a synthesis of different historical
and musical influences, as well as instrumentations.
Perhaps the only preservation of original art form in
this lies in the poems. It has been an exciting and
challenging process. The experience of working with
Sheila, among other supportive and dedicated
musicians has been a most rewarding one.*

- Ting

'Mad Bee'

based on a poem by Su Huan (Song Dynasty)

毒蜂一成窠,
toxic/ bees/ one/ form/ hive
高挂恶木枝。
high/ hang/ evil/ wooden/ branch

行人百步外,
walking/ people/ hundred/ paces/ away

目断魂亦飞。
eye-view/ cut/ souls/ also/ fly-away

长安大道边,
Chang - An/ big/ road/ side

挟弹谁家儿?
snatch/ pellet/ which/ family/ kid

右手持金丸,
Right/ hand/ take/ golden/ pellet

盈满无所疑。
Full - bow/ without/ any/ doubt

一中纷下来,
Once/ hit/ numerous/ down/ come

势若风雨随。
Appears/ as if/ wind/ shower/ follows

身如万箭攒,
body/ as if/ millions/ arrows/ stung

宛转无所之。
whirling/ whirling / lost/ his/ knowing

徒有疾恶心
Merely/ to have/ hate/ evil/ heart

奈何不知几
pitifully/ to not avail/ do not/ know/ how

II

"Love Me or Leave Me"	words, Gus Kahn; music Walter Donaldson
"My Baby Just Cares for Me"	
"See-Line Woman"	words and music, George Bass
"Ruby"	words and music, Marti Jones
"Black Coffee"	words and music, Paul Francis Webster & Sonny Burke
"The Water is Wide"	anonymous, 18th century Scottish ballad
Brazil	English lyrics, S. K. Russell; music, Ary Barroso

Sheila Lewandowski, voice
Dan Mohr & Tim McCarthy, back-up vocals
Jason Fridley, alto sax & flute
Phil Salathé, electric bass
Tom Farrell, piano & arrangements
Jay D. Metz, drums & percussion
Jamil-Jalim Shiner, dance

Lights	Garin Marschall & T'aiya Shiner
Reception	T. Kemmeo Brown & Ursula Mathers
House Managers	J. R. Magsaysay, Elizabeth Cortlett, Margaret Masingill, Kerry Gilbertson
Sound Board	Jeremy G. W. Romagna
Recording	Larry Wineland

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Rebekah, Todd & Ting - thank you for your creativity, commitment & patience with me. Working on this new material was a great experience.

Ida - Your idea to commission original material gave me more than beautiful music to sing. I am a better musician for the opportunity to work directly with the composers. Thank you for pushing me and believing in me.

Tom - I can't thank you enough for all of the extra work you did for my concert. I know, very well, that this would not have been possible without your help.

Amy, Jason, Phil, Jay, Jalim, Garin, T'aiya, Kemmeo, J.R., Guy, Hank, Ursula, Kerry, Megan, Irina, Dan & Tim - I would be singing in a box without all of you.

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