stanley grill

An Incalculable Loss

(poems by Richard Leach & Norman Fischer)
soprano & cello

© 2020 Stanley Grill All rights reserved

VOCAL MUSIC			
The Snow Begins (W.C. Williams)	1975	soprano, piano	3 min
Earth and Sea (Eskimo texts)	1975	soprano, piano	3 min
Prelude (T.S. Eliot)	1978	soprano, violin, cello	10 min
6 Songs (W.B. Yeats)	1983	soprano, piano	15 min
To a Child (W.B. Yeats)	1987	soprano, string quartet	20 min
Crazy Jane Sings (W.B. Yeats)	1999	soprano, fl, vn, va, vc, pn	25 min
Vignettes/Flowers (W.C. Williams	2002	SATB, cello	18 min
Love Poems (W.C. Williams)	2003	SSAA	10 min
Vignettes/Trees (W.C. Williams)	2004	sop, mezz sop, 2 cellos	15 min
Thinking of You (John MacKenzie)	2005	soprano, cello, harp	7 min
Ariettas Without Words	2005	soprano, cello, harp	9 min
Scetate (Ferdinando Russo)	2005	SSATTBB	6 min
In Their Flight (Mark Doty)	2006	sop, mezzo, violin, cello	6 min
5 Rilke Songs	2009	soprano, viola d'amore, cello	15 min
4 Songs to Poems by Hart Crane	2010	tenor, piano	35 min
Seasons (W.C. Williams)	2010	SATB	11 min
Sonnets to Orpheus (R.M. Rilke)	2012	tenor, piano	35 min
Songs of Loss and Remembering (R.M. Rilke)	2012	soprano, viola d'amore, viola, cello	12 min
Rozmowa z kamieniem (W. Szymborska)	2013	soprano, 2 violins, cello	15 min
2 Love Songs (H. Heine)	2015	countertenor, va, vc, theorbo	4 min
A Collection of Songs (C.F. Cilliers)	2017	soprano, piano	18 min
The Violin Sings in a Common Language	2017	soprano, violin	13 min
Collected Villanelles (various poets)	2018	SATB	16 min
La selva de los relojes (Federico Garcia Lorca)	2018	mezzo soprano, cello, piano	21 min
Der Februar (Erich Kastner)	2018	soprano, viola d'amore	4 min
Vier Gedichte (Inborg Hoflehner)	2018	mezzo soprano, viola d'amore	6 min
La Lay de Plour (Guillaume Machaut)	2018	contralto, fl, vn, vc, piano	40 min
Selections from Les Roses (R.M. Rilke)	2019	soprano, oboe, violin	9 min
Blossoms (Selma Meerbaum-Eisinger)	2019	soprano, viola d'amore, cello	22 min
This Hour (Rose Ausländer)	2019	soprano, tenor, vn, va, vc, harpsichord	II min
The Aim was Song (Robert Frost)	2019	soprano, cello	3 min
Two Ballads (Richard Leach)	2019	soprano, Bb clarinet, viola, cello, piano	8 min
The Whirr of Wings (various poets)	2020	chorus, flute, viola, cello	24 min
Dust Song (Richard Leach)	2020	soprano, piano	3 min
Selections from Words for Music Perhaps An Incalculable Loss (Richard Leach/Norman Fischer)	2020 2020	mezzo soprano, baritone, piano soprano & cello	8 min 12 min
MUSIC FOR STRINGS ALONE			
6 Contrapuntal Pieces	1986	string quartet	20 min
For Laura	1987	string quartet	25 min
The Beckoning Stars	2001	string quartet	13 min
Imaginary Dances	2001	violin solo	ı8 min
Short Stories	2003	vn, va, vc, db	18 min
Passion (a love duet)	2003	viola, cello	9 min
Pavanne (for a world without war)	2005	string orchestra	8 min
Meditations	2006	string orchestra	8 min
American Landscapes	2007	string quartet	24 min
Motet	2008	string orchestra	7 min
Ecstasy	2009	viola solo	9 min
Transformations	2009	viola da gamba	12 min
Sonatine	2010	3 violins	9 min
Lieder ohne Worte	2011	2 va, vc, theorbo	12 min
Middle Ground	2012	vn, 2 va, vc	25 min
O mystery!	2012	viola solo	5 min
Music for Viol Consort	2013	6 viols	20 min
Afterwards, there were no more wars	2013	string quartet	21 min
At the Center of All Things	2013	string quartet	17 min
4 Nocturnes	2013	violin, viola	19 min
Lonely Voices	2013	string quartet	26 min
Trance Music	2014	string orchestra	22 min
The Time is Past	2016	string quartet	15 min
Dreaming of a Better World	2016	string quartet	15 min
Trio Sonata	2017	vn, va d'amore, cello	10 min
Transfiguration	2017	viola quartet	14 min
Duets	2018	2 viola d'amore	7 min
Aphorisms I	2019	string quartet	15 min
Airs and Dances	2019	strings	6 min

Border Crossings	2019	2 violins	6 min
Sea and Sky	2019	2 violas	11 min
Ode to Theia	2020	string quartet	22 min
CHAMBER MUSIC			
Three for Three	1992	violin, cello, piano	16 min
Civil War Songs	1992	viola, piano	18 min
Take Five	1993	piano quintet	25 min
Serenade	1999	fl, vn, va, vc	11 min
Distant Music	2000	cl, vn/va, vc, pn	20 min
Driven by the Wind	2001	flute, cello, piano	25 min
Nonet (for New York)	2002	fl, ob, cl, hn, bn, string quartet	35 min
A Little Sweet	2003	flute, cello	10 min
On the Edge of Sleep & Dreaming	2003	horn, cello, harp	31 min
5 Pastoral Scenes	2004	ob, bn, vn, va, vc	30 min
I was dreaming of the sea	2004	vn (or fl), vc, pn	7 min
Little Tales of Mirth & Woe	2004	vn (or fl), vc, pn	6 min
An Ode to the Possibility of Piece	2005	clarinet, violin, cello	15 min
Elements Motet for Brass Instruments	2006	fl, ob, cl, hn, bn	II min
Whotet for drass instruments 4 Caprices	2006	2 tp, hn, tb, tu violin, piano	7 min 14 min
Melville's Dream	2014	alto flute, viola, cello	14 IIIII 12 min
Music for Loud Band	2017 2018	2 cornettos & 2 tenor sackbuts	5 min
Fanfare	2018	4 sackbuts (or tenor trombones)	3 min
the children are crying	2018	saxophone quartet	6 min
the children are still crying	2018	saxophone quartet	6 min
Aphorisms II	2019	viola & piano	21 min
Divisions	2019	vn, vc, pn	13 min
Aphorisms IV	2019	cello & piano	19 min
Remember	2020	viola & piano	10 min
The Whirr of Wings (instrumental suite)	2020	flute, viola, cello	19 min
Dance	2020	flute	3 min
Echo	2020	flute, oboe, clarinet, violin	4 min
ORCHESTRAL MUSIC			
Morning Music	2001	clarinet, string orchestra	22 min
Two Sad Songs (W.B. Yeats)	2002	soprano, string orchestra	15 min
Invisible Ballet	2003	string orchestra & diverse instruments	33 min
Dark Matter (Pluto)	2005	orchestra	15 min
Ophelia Songs (Shakespeare)	2005	soprano, harp, string orchestra	12 min
Love's Little Pleasures (various poets)	2008	soprano, string orchestra	15 min
The Four Elements	2009	viola, string orchestra	22 min
Mystical Songs (Fernando Rielo)	2009	soprano, viola, string orchestra	18 min
In Praise of Reason	2012	cello, 2 horns, string orchestra	13 min
Against War	2018	soprano, orchestra	23 min
Season of Rain	2018	orchestra	38 min
Summer	2018	orchestra	43 min
Declaration of Peace	2019	chamber orchestra	12 min
Everything Passes	2019	soprano & chamber orchestra	16 min
Gaia's Lament	2019	violin, orchestra	21 min
Serenade	2019	oboe, string orchestra	13 min
The Silence of Winter	2020	3 flutes, string orchestra	13 min
The Bridge	2020	viola & orchestra	70 min
PIANO MUSIC			
Simple Sketches	2015	piano	12 min
Skirmishes	2016	piano 4 hands	10 min
Preludes for Piano, 1-6	2016	piano	10 min
Preludes for Piano, 7-12	2017	piano	10 min
Aphorisms III	2019	piano	17 min

The New York Times has the same of the property of the propert

U.S. DEATHS NEAR 100,000, AN INCALCULABLE LOSS

Names on a List. They Were Us.

An Incalculable Loss

poem by Richard Leach and Norman Fischer

Stunned by this NY Times front page listing of the dead, I wanted to do something. Reaching out to the poet Richard Leach, with whom I had collaborated previously, he promptly sent me Missing Voices, which I set to music the following day. Somehow, a duet between voice and cello seemed right for his moving words. These are not statistics but individual humans with all of their connected friends and family – and this must be acknowledged, even as we struggle to fathom the depth of such loss.

Then another poet I had reached out to put me in touch with Norman Fischer, who had posted a series of coronavirus poems on his website. Reaching out to him, I was thrilled when he gave permission for me to use his poems for this cycle of songs.

As I write this, the world in slow steps is attempting to return to normal – but nothing has really changed. The virus remains as transmissable and deadly as before governments attempted to halt its spread by implementing social distancing measures. For those at risk, me included, the time to safely venture out and resume a normal life remains out of reach.

Stanley Grill May 30, 2020

MISSING VOICES (Richard Leach)

Who can count them? Who can count them?

Silence, silence where there had been voices, absence, absence where there had been lives.

Shall we sing of numbers? No, not numbers. We will sing of voices and of lives.

We will sing of mothers, fathers, children. Friends and lovers, neighbors near and far.

Faces, faces, all their words and stories, voices, voices we no longer hear.

Silence is the frame around our singing, Silence is the canvas for our song.

Shall we sing of numbers? No, not numbers. We will sing the loved ones who are gone.

We will sing the love that carries on. Love carries on.

WHO ARE WE NOW (Norman Fischer)

Who we are now We're no longer Our activity our words

Where find Identity when trees are swamped By night

As if not there Though we think we know they are And loved ones become moving pictures

We reach out to And believe again As we once believed in an absent

God Sunlight on hillside Birds still sing Normalcy waits and wavers

TINY VIRUS HAS NO NEED (Norman Fischer)

Tiny virus has no need Of others

Its RNA
In harmony with
Traffic patterns
At edge of substance-fiction
It repeats itself in throngs

Plays a melody ranges up and down

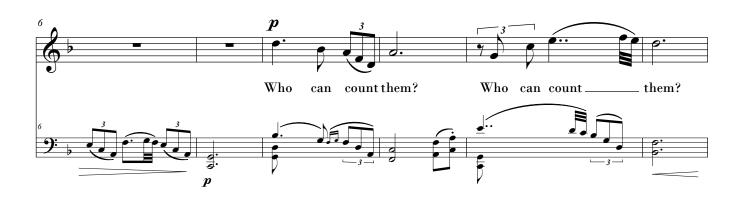
ALWAYS, NEVER (Richard Leach)

tears tears always tears and always the drying of tears and never enough to stop them from being shed again

Missing Voices

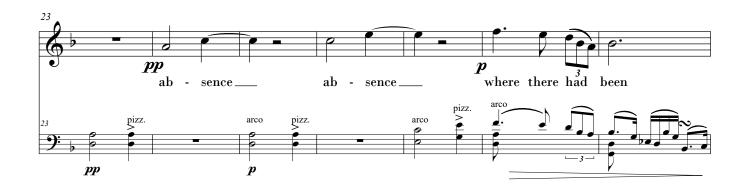
(Richard Leach)

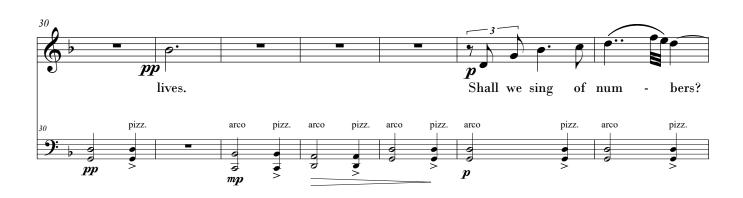


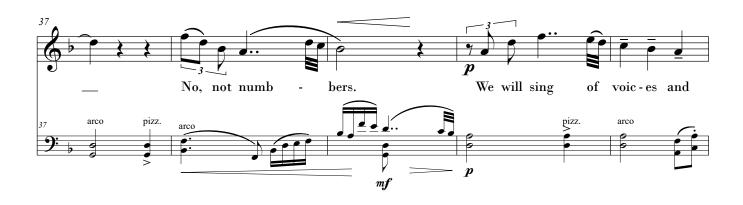




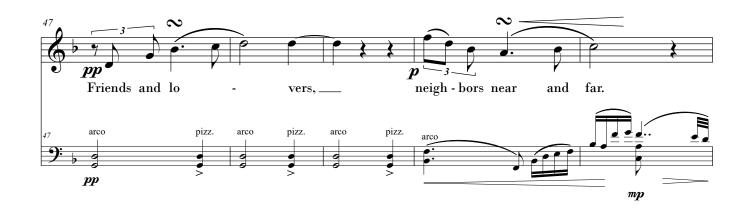


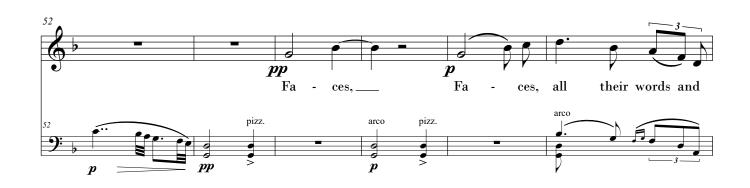


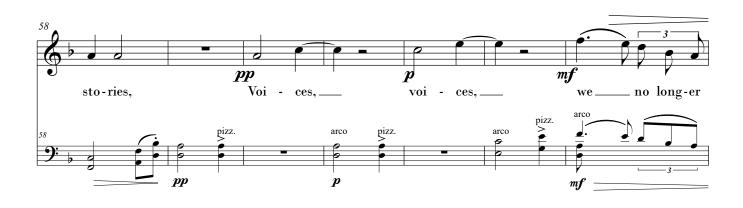


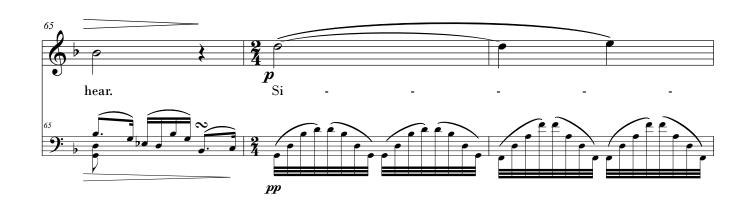


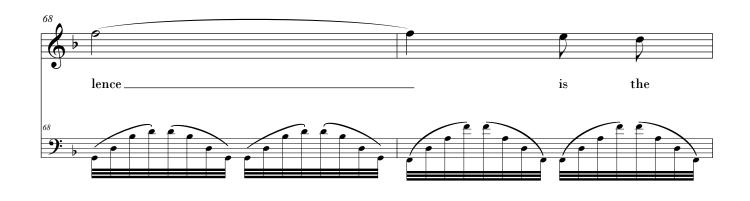


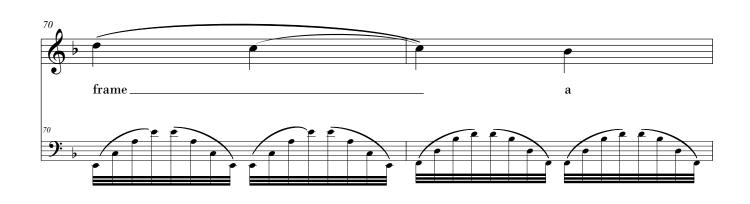


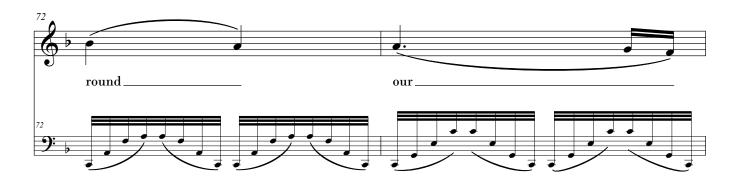


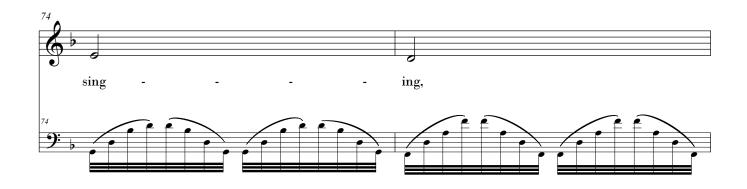


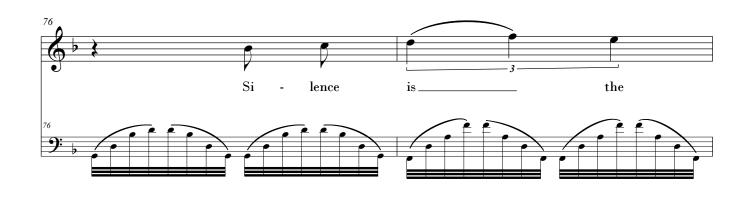


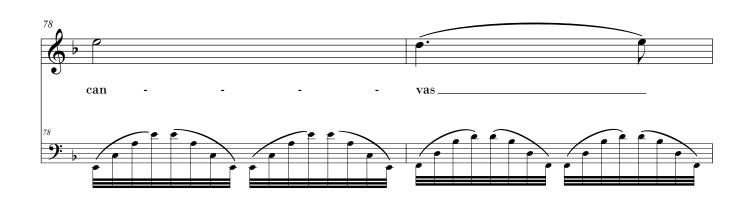


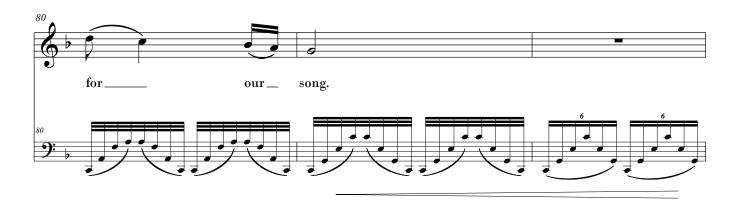


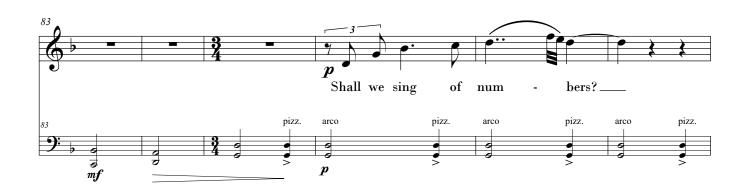






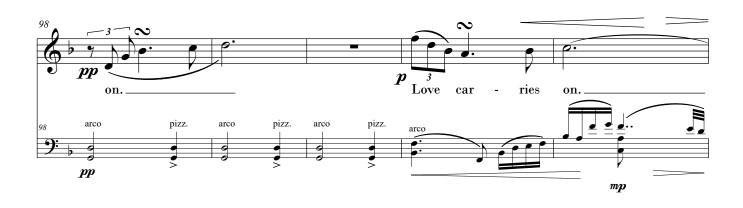


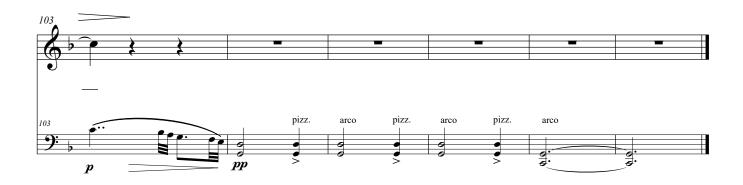








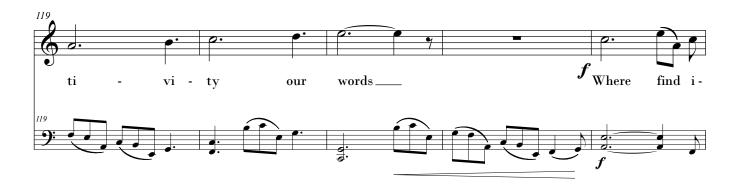


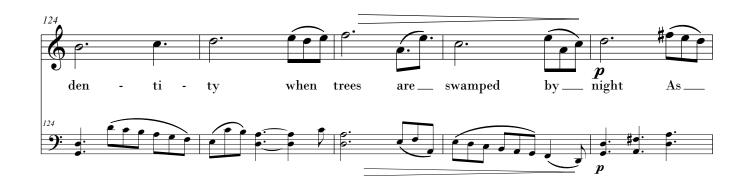


Who are we now

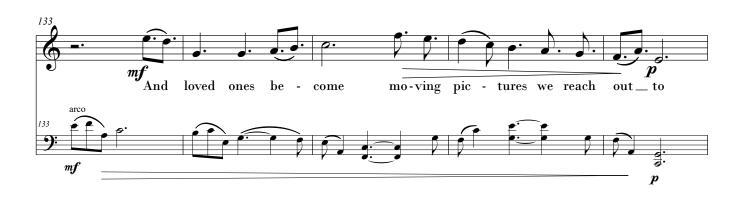




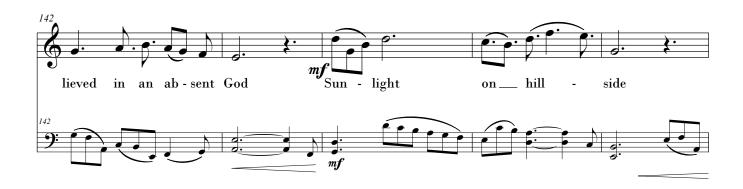








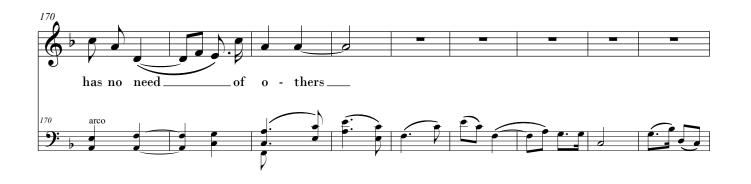




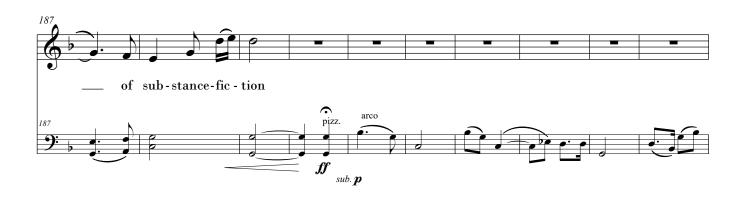


Tiny virus has no need (Norman Fischer)

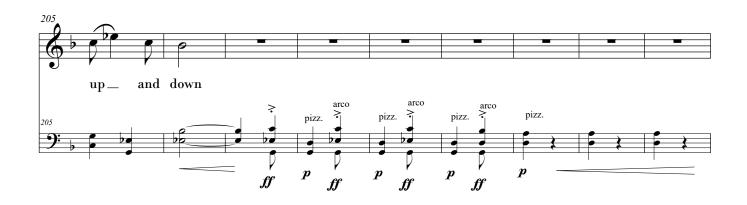


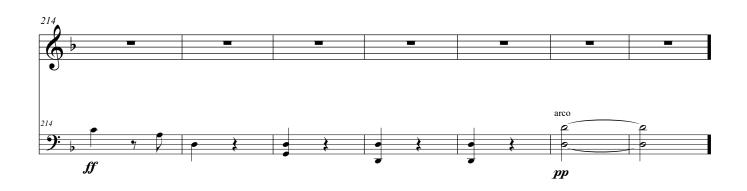








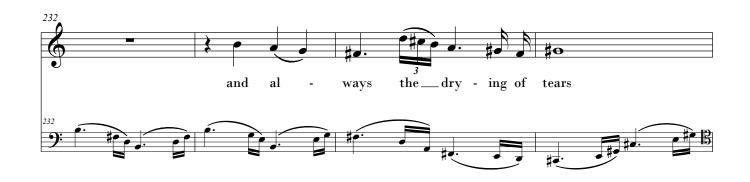




always, never (Ríchard Leach)

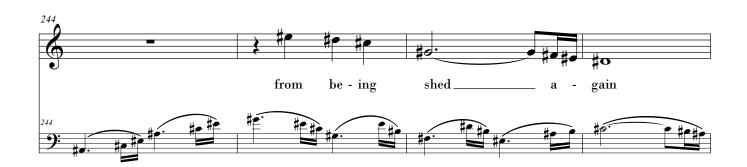
















A few words about (and by) the composer

STAN GRILL

Raised in the Bronx, Stan has been obsessed with music since the age of six, when his mother took him to Carnegie Hall and he was astonished and awestruck by a performance of "La Mer." While that obsession first took the form of playing piano at every possible moment (when not otherwise engaged in activities typical of a kid growing up in the Bronx of the 1950's and '60s), it was Stan's music theory studies at the Manhattan School of Music that converted that obsession to writing music – and to finding his own musical voice.

He learned the craft from extraordinary musicians: among others - Robert Helps, Leon Kushner, Ursula Mamlok and Joseph Prostakoff. Stan's passion for medieval and Renaissance music has greatly influenced his writing - a contemporary expression of ageless techniques based on melody, modal harmonies, and contrapuntal, extended, interweaving lines. Two main themes permeate many of his works - music composed in an attempt to translate something about the nature of the physical world, and music composed to inspire and promote world peace.

Stan's music has been performed the world over – from Ecuador to Poland; Toulouse to Tokyo; Brooklyn to Vienna – by such artists as Camerata Philadelphia, Camerata Arkos, Englewinds, the Pandolfis Consort, the Bronx Arts Ensemble, One World Symphony, violists Brett Deubner and Ralph Farris, and violinist Jorge Avila. Major works include three symphonies, ten string quartets, a nonet, concerti for violin, viola and cello, and numerous song cycles for voice and various instruments.

Stan's discography includes "afterwards..." with the Camerata Philadelphia string quartet, "and I paint stars with wings" with Camerata Philadelphia, "Rustling Flights of Wings" with soprano Nancy Allen Lundy, pianist Stephen Gosling and violinist Ralph Farris and "At the Center of All Things" with music performed by the Diderot String Quartet.

"As I see it, as much as we strive to find reason and purpose in our having been born into this amazing, mysterious and awe-inspiring universe, that attempt is largely futile. It is however, the best part of our nature that obliges us to make the attempt, though the most we can hope for is to gain some small degree of understanding of the world around us, and, more importantly, of ourselves. To achieve this, we each approach the problem in our own way, uniquely shaped by our cultural background, innate talents and abilities, education and so on. For some, science may be the window through which they best perceive and interpret the world, for others, religion. For those to whom the world seems to express itself most clearly and beautifully through sound, music is the voice that speaks to us and through which we, in turn, best express ourselves. Now, I can write notes that will make pretty music because I've been trained to do so — but the best of my music has arrived, rather inexplicably, as part of a personal effort to understand the world and myself. It is, in a way, an act of translation. The world says something, I try to understand it, and then translate it into musical language. The particular musical language which I speak, is, of course, a product of my conservatory training and personal musical tastes, but hopefully, the outcome, imperfect a translation as it may be, will convey to others something of its original intent."

Stan's music is melodic, modal, contrapuntal, characterized by extended, interweaving lines. His musical influences span the centuries, and include Machaut, Josquin, Palestrina, Monteverdi, Lassus, Britten, Ives, Vaughn Williams and Shostakovich.

Complete scores are available at **www.stangrillcomposer.com**. Stan Grill is a member of ASCAP.

