stanley grill

# Temptresses 

2 mezzo sopranos \& 2 violins

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| VOCAL MUSIC |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The Snow Begins (W.C. Williams) | 1975 | soprano, piano | 3 min |
| Earth and Sea (Eskimo texts) | 1975 | soprano, piano | 3 min |
| Preludes (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 |
| Le 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 | 11 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 (W.B. Yeats) | 2020 | mezzo soprano, baritone, piano | 8 min |
| An Incalculable Loss (Richard Leach/Norman Fischer) | 2020 | soprano \& cello | 12 min |
| Say their names (words from the news) | 2020 | voice \& piano | 6 min |
| To Pain (Peter Levitt) | 2020 | baritone \& piano | 4 min |
| Artist (Madhu Raghavendra) | 2020 | soprano \& piano | 3 min |
| 1918 (Ellen Bryant Voigt) | 2020 | mezzo soprano, vn, 2 va, vc | 20 min |
| Les Fugitifs (R.M. Rilke) | 2020 | mezzo soprano, viola | 5 min |
| Schnee und Eis (Rose Ausländer) | 2020 | soprano, viola | 6 min |
| Moot! | 2020 | 9 voices | 3 min |
| 4 xM and Other Blues (Richard Leach) | 2021 | baritone \& piano | 11 min |
| 2 Sonnets (William Shakespeare) | 2021 | soprano, flute, clarinet, viola | 9 min |
| Several Simple Songs | 2021 | soprano \& piano | 10 min |
| Idilio (Federico Garcia Lorca) | 2021 | soprano \& piano | 3 min |
| The Peace of Wild Things | 2021 | counter-tenor, traverso, va, vc, theorbo | 17 min |
| Voices of Afghanistan | 2021 | small chorus, violin | 14 min |
| Temptresses | 2021 | 2 mezzo sopranos \& 2 violins | 15 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 | 18 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 |
| Trio Sonata - 2020 | 2020 | viola, viola d'amore, cello | 10 min |
| Drift | 2021 | string orchestra | 12 min |
| The Bridge of Birds | 2021 | viola \& cello | 13 min |
| Sulla Natura | 2021 | string quartet | 27 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 | $\mathrm{fl}, \mathrm{vn}$, va, vc | 11 min |
| Distant Music | 2000 | $\mathrm{cl}, \mathrm{vn} / \mathrm{va}, \mathrm{vc}, \mathrm{pn}$ | 20 min |
| Driven by the Wind | 2001 | flute, cello, piano | 25 min |
| Nonet (for New York) | 2002 | $\mathrm{fl}, \mathrm{ob}, \mathrm{cl}, \mathrm{hn}, \mathrm{bn}$, 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 ( orfl ), 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 | 2006 | $\mathrm{fl}, \mathrm{ob}, \mathrm{cl}, \mathrm{hn}$, bn | 11 min |
| Motet for Brass Instruments | 2006 | $2 \mathrm{tp}, \mathrm{hn}, \mathrm{tb}, \mathrm{tu}$ | 7 min |
| 4 Caprices | 2014 | violin, piano | 14 min |
| Melville's Dream | 2017 | alto flute, viola, cello | 12 min |
| Music for Loud Band | 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 | $\mathrm{vn}, \mathrm{vc}, \mathrm{pn}$ | 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 |
| Freedom Song | 2020 | saxophone quartet | 6 min |
| The Stars Circle Above, Indifferent to Our Foolishness | 2020 | flute quartet | 7 min |
| Traumstücke | 2020 | viola d'amore, piano | 11 min |
| Fantasy | 2021 | viola \& piano | 12 min |
| Imaginary Dances II | 2021 | alto saxophone \& harp | 12 min |
| Songs for Astrid | 2021 | flute | 13 min |
| Ararat | 2021 | duduk quartet | 6 min |
| A Trifle | 2021 | trumpet \& cello | 4 min |
| Book of Soliloquies | 2021 | various instruments | 17 min |
| ORCHESTRAL MUSIC |  |  |  |
| Morning Music | 2001 | clarinet, string orchestra | 22 min |
| Two Sad Songs (W.B. Yeats) | 2002 | soprano, string orchestra | 15 min |
| The Invisible Ballet | 2003 | string orchestra \& diverse instruments | 33 min |
| 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 |
| Fantasy | 2020 | piano, string orchestra | 15 min |
| Die Erste Elegie (R.M. Rilke) | 2020 | soprano, orchestra | 38 min |
| The Mystic Trumpeter | 2021 | trumpet, string orchestra | 24 min |
| 24 september 1945 (Nazir Hikmet) | 2021 | soprano \& string orchestra | 3 min |
| 28 october 1945 (Nazir Hikmet) | 2021 | soprano \& string orchestra | 4 min |
| Canziones d'Amore (various poets) | 2021 | soprano \& string orchestra | 22 min |
| Ahimsa | 2021 | orchestral ensemble | 22 min |
| We Will Not Forget | 2021 | duduk \& string orchestra | 13 min |
| Gaia's Song | 2021 | piano \& chamber orchestra | 21 min |

## PIANO MUSIC

| Simple Sketches | 2015 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Skirmishes | 2016 |
| Preludes for Piano, 1-6 | 2016 |
| Preludes for Piano, 7-12 | 2017 |
| Aphorisms III | 2019 |

## Temptresses

An anthology of poems, God and Mortals, has sat in my library for many years, always tempting me, but somehow I never quite got around to doing anything with it. After connecting on-line with Micah Gleason, she informed me of her intent to present a program of music with a theme of the "femmefatale." That got me thinking again of Gods and Mortals, a collection of contemporary poems about ancient Greek mythical characters. For this set of songs, I selected poems about women by women writers.

## Niobe Now Muriel Rukeyser

Niobe
wild
with unbelief
as all
her ending
turns to stone
Not gentle weeping and souvenirs but hammering honking agonies
Forty-nine tragic years are done and the twentieth century not begun:
All tears,
all tears, all tears.
Water
from her rock is sprung
and in this water
lives a seed
That must endure
and grow
and shine
beasts, gardens
at last rivers
A man to be born
to start again
to tear
a woman
from his side

And wake
to start
the world again

## Daphne

Edna St. Vincent Millay

Why do you follow me?
Any moment I can be
Nothing but a laurel-tree.
Any moment of the chase
I can leave you in my place
A pink bough for your embrace.
Yet if over hill and hollow
Still it is your will to follow,
I am off; --to heel, Apollo!

## Hecate

Claribel Alegria
I am the virgin
the woman
the prostitute
I am the salt
the mercury
the sulphur
I am heaven
and hell
Iam the earth
you see me illuminated
maternal
Don't trust me
I can consign you
to darkness.

## Iphigenia

## Sophia de Mello Breyner Andresen

Iphigenia, led to sacrifice
Between the piercing cries of those who weep for her, Serenely marches with the light
And, face turned forward to the wind,
Like victory riding a vessel's prow,
Untouched, annihilates catastrophe.

## Cassandra

To me, one silly task is like another.
I bare the shambling tricks of lust and pride.
This flesh will never give a child its mother,--
Song, like a wing, tears through my breast, my side,
And madness chooses out my voice again,
Again. I am the chosen no hand saves:
The shrieking heaven lifted over men,
Not the dumb earth, wherein they set their graves.

## Siren Song

## Margaret Atwood

This is the one song everyone would like to learn: the song that is irresistible:
the song that forces men
to leap overboard in squadrons
even though they see the beached skulls
the song nobody knows
because anyone who has heard it
is dead, and the others can't remember.
Shall I tell you the secret
and if I do, will you get me
out of this bird suit?
I don't enjoy it here
squatting on this island
looking pictureque and mythical with these two feathery maniacs, I don't enjoy singing this trio, fatal and valuable.

I will tell the secret to you, to you, only to you.
Come closer. This song
is a cry for help: Help me!
Only you, only you can,
you are unique
at last. Alas
it is a boring song
but it works every time.

Niobe Now










Daphne






## Hecate

Adagietto $\downarrow=74$






## Iphigenía



I-phi-ge-ni -





## Cassandra



Mezzo 1


Vn I





Siren Song
















## A few words about (and by) the composer

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 "remember" with violist Brett Deubner and pianist Thomas Steigerwald, "afterwards..." and "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. №w, I can write notes that will make pretty music because I've been trained to do so - 6ut 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 Canguage. 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 transfation 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 and a voting member of the RECORDING ACADEMY. His albums are available on the Innova Recordings and Navona Recordings labels.

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