# DREAMS AND ECHOES

FEATURING THE POETRY OF TOM TAM
(2013)

KATHRYN SALFELDER

### Program Listing:

Dreams and Echoes (2013)

Kathryn Salfelder (b. 1987)

- I. A Smiling Dreamer
- II. Free Element
- III. Soundless Synchronicity

#### Program Note:

*Dreams and Echoes* is a cycle of three songs featuring the poetry of Tom Tam. It confronts ephemerality, finds joy in loss, and ponders how dreams are realized in unexpected ways. I had the pleasure of watching Tom's creative process; each poem was completed in two or three days. He challenged me to "simply write the music" and trust my intuition, just as he had done when crafting his text. In March 2013, I finally gathered the courage to follow his advice; each of these settings was composed in just a few days, and I hope that I have done justice to the genuine sentiments of his text.

I dedicate *Dreams and Echoes* to Tom Tam, with endless gratitude for his tireless work as healer and dreamer.

#### Performance Notes:

Duration: ca. 11' [2'30", 4'30", 4']

Accidentals remain in effect throughout the measure, at the octave in which they occur. Sometimes they are rewritten within a measure for clarity.

#### I. A Smiling Dreamer

A Gate to the Golden Mountain Stands in the end of the Pacific. A Bridge, extending to the infinite mist, As a dream into the mystery. Going into this gate, Walking on this bridge, Searching the dream.

No need to ask God About the dream, Just feel proud to have it. Nothing comes true easily, Only for the hard-worker Who tirelessly fights for...

Smile,
Emotion shows on the face,
And pride from the heart.
Standing on the bridge,
Soothing into this dream.
"Don't I waste my life trip?!"
Alas, life only can be passed on,
Never ever, be wasted!
Smile again, it is not doomsday.
A crazy dream
Only for the fearless Dreamer.

#### II. Free Element

Winter.

Seems the light-speed runs too slow, As the season stillness lasts forever. Ice, capturing frozen waves The track of activity remaining. Peaceful but not quiet on the earth, Nature is creating the rejuvenation, Preparing the coming of Spring.

A falling leaf stonily
Laying on the ice soundlessly,
Appearing with no colorful attraction.
Alas, who is going to remember
Its radiant blooming
When the Spring came,
Its green brilliance in the Summer,
Also the bright red in the Fall?
Peaceful, combat from no one.
Life doesn't call for glory and honor,
Greatness is to be simple and free.

Waiting, for the wind's blowing. Be a free-element, Gliding in the sky Like an eagle; Wandering in the Heavens As an angel. Whoever, aimless; What liberty spirit is!

Following, naturally with the wind,
To the mountain and ocean,
The forest and plain,
Wherever, carefree.
Oh, my Lord,
Nothing is to be repented,
Life still is so gorgeous,
Amen

#### **III. Soundless Synchronicity**

She has left,
Harmony with Nature,
Starting a new voyage
After the life excursion.
Soundlessly, remains nothing
Only the love and mercy,
Peacefully, going to the silent world.
Needless to say a word,
Feeling comes out the heart:
"We miss you."

A given red rose
Scattered its gorgeousness,
Carrying the memory of life.
Its image has gone with the light,
Wandering freely in space.
Its beauty is lasting,
As a spirit stays inside the soul
Tranquilly...

A Void space, strangely quiet,
Not even hearing God's voice.
The inner praying is,
Passing to the multi-dimension.
Can't you hear the silent sound
From a broken heart?
Nothing echoes back in the Cosmos,
Yet the empathy could be felt-"Forever, I love you."

to Tom Tam, with gratitude

## **DREAMS AND ECHOES**

## I. A Smiling Dreamer

Tom Tam

Kathryn Salfelder











### II. Free Element

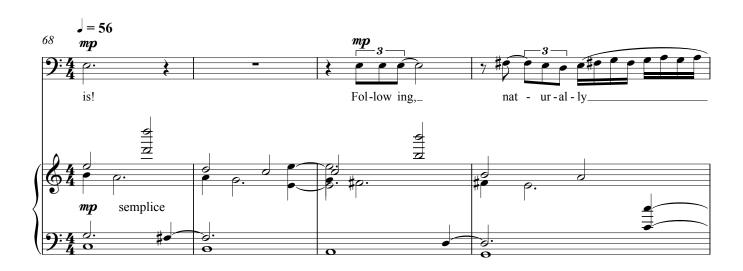














# III. Soundless Synchronicity









