



Music Inspired by Women's Poetry – Some Selections from Dr. Sydney Carlson



In March of 2022, Dr. Sydney Carlson was the guest artist for First Tuesdays Online with GPFS. The topic for the evening was music for flute and piano inspired by women's poetry – either written by a woman, about or inspired by. This session was based on a concert presented by Sydney for Portland State University's Noon concert series featuring School of Music & Theater faculty Chuck Dillard, Sydney Carlson and Kelley Nassief. The Noon Concert Series is a weekly opportunity to experience the sounds of the PSU School of Music & Theater.

Below, please find a link to the concert YouTube video so you can listen to this phenomenal concert. You will also find the publishers for these pieces, the program notes and the video begin and end times for each piece.

In the spirit of the The Portland Piper's We Read column, we also added a link to a place you can read each poem online.

[Click here](#) for YouTube Video.

Program, Video Numbers, Publishers and Poetry

Music for flute and piano inspired by women's poetry. Music by Jake Heggie, Joseph Schwantner, David Del Trdeici, and Valerie Coleman. Performed by Sydney Carlson and Chuck Dillard. Poetry by Mary Oliver, Agueda Pizzaro, Lewis Carroll, and Maya Angelou. Although Lewis Carroll is not a woman, his poem is about Alice, from Alice in Wonderland.

#1 Begins 2:38 - ends 19:57

Fury of Light

Jake Heggie (b. 1961-)

Part One: Fast

Part Two: Elegy

Part Three: Meditation

Part Four: Very Fast

Inspired by "**Sunrise**" by **Mary Oliver** (1935 -

poem can be [read online here](#).

On recording, read by Amy Lichtenstein

Bent Pen Music is the publisher but available several place - [click here](#) for option.

#2 Begins 20:02 ends 26:26

Black Anemones

Joseph Schwantner (b. 1943-)

Inspired by "**Black Anemones**" by **Agueda Pizzaro** (b. 1941-)

poem can be [read online here](#).

Read by Emily Sprunger

<https://www.josephschwantner.com/works/black-anemones/>

#3 Begins 41:23 ends 48:06

Acrostic Song by

David Del Tredici (b. 1937-)

Inspired by "**A Boat Beneath a Sunny Sky**" by **Lewis Carroll** (1832-1898)

can be [read online here](#)

On recording, read by Emily Sprunger

<https://www.daviddeltredici.com/works/acrostic-song-flute-and-piano-test/>

#4 Begins 48:20

Fanmi Imen

Valerie Coleman (b. 1970-)

Inspired by "**Human Family**" by **Maya Angelou** (1928-2014)

can be [read online here](#)

Read by Sam Boulgarides

Published by Valerie and available through her online store, but also available other places.

https://www.vcolemanmusic.com/store/c1/Featured_Products.html

About Flutist Sydney Carlson

Flutist, [Sydney Carlson](#) is Professor of Music and Coordinator of Graduate Studies for the School of Music and Theater at Portland State University. She has worked with students from the United States, Brazil, Korea, and China. Former students have gone on to careers as performers, educators, and in arts management.

Dr. Carlson holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music, East Carolina University, and the University of Houston. Sydney is a member of the Portland Opera Orchestra and frequently performs with the Portland Ballet Orchestra and Oregon Symphony and is a former member of the Houston Grand Opera Orchestra. Sydney has performed and taught in Europe, Canada, South America, Mexico, and China.

About Collaborating Pianist Chuck Dillard

The collaborating pianist for this program [Chuck Dillard](#). Chuck is a multi-faceted and sought after performer, educator, conductor, lecturer, producer, and arranger - a musician at his best while working with others. Brought to PSU in 2016 to create a masters program in Collaborative Piano, his graduates have gone on to doctoral study and professional work in the field. An advocate for diversifying the musical canon, Dr. Dillard's recent creative works include the album and anthology "Joys Abiding" (Navona 2022) featuring duets by female composers, performances and recordings of Fanny Hensel lieder (Acis anticipated 2023), and "Girl Talk" - a recital for flute and piano featuring poetry written by or about women. Currently, he is Associate Professor of Collaborative Piano at Portland State. He holds degrees in collaborative piano from The University of Colorado (DMA 2009) and The University of Maryland (MM 2001).

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