OVERTURE TO ORIOLES

SOLO PIANO

PHYLLIS GOLDIN
1. Overture to Orioles on the Cannon Valley Trail (3:44)
A tribute to the wonderful birds who gave me a gift of song.

2. Suite Colleen (3:12)
Based on a traditional Irish melody.

3. Return To Go (4:10)
A tantalizing initial excursion into jazz. Once I had the drift of the opening riff I knew I had turned a compositional corner.

4. Sixplay (3:41)
I’m interested in exploring the musical possibilities of different numerical constellations.

5. Bid You Farewell * (3:05)
Originally written as a song after my mother’s death, this instrumental interlude was a natural continuation.

6. Sincerely, Helene (3:38)
Inspired by an antique silver print of a beautiful woman who signed her name and date to the photograph in 1935. I created a fantasy musical interpretation of her life.

7. Spring Thaw ** (4:49)
My first solo piano composition.

8. She’s Like a Swallow (4:28)
Based on a folk song from the Canadian Maritimes, which I sang at age 16 on a Greyhound bus trip from my home town of Winnipeg to Toronto. The other passengers were amazigly patient and the melody remains a favorite of mine.

9. North Pole Song (4:23)
Written in honor of the 1986 Steger North Pole Expedition and Ann Bancroft. The Musical themes are my interpretation of her descriptions of the adventure.

10. Frog Call *** (2:49)
These last three compositions were written in 1993 as piano responses to guitar pieces by Ann Reed.

11. Sadie *** (3.02)

12. Ancestry Dance *** (2:11)

* Ann Reed, mandolin
Dedicated with love to Wanda Brown
and with appreciation to The Anderson Center for
Interdisciplinary Studies, Red Wing, MN.
Thanks to Ann Reed and Lin Bick for assistance with this
recording, and to many friends for their patient ears.
Mastered at Wild Audio, Minneapolis.
Manufactured at Noiseland Industries, Minneapolis, MN.
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Other products available from GoldinBrown Productions:

Spring Thaw, cassette, original songs - piano and vocal, Phyllis Goldin and Wanda Brown

Sand by Sand, LP, original songs - piano and vocal, Phyllis Goldin and Wanda Brown

Strings Attached, cassette, original songs - piano and vocal and guitar, with Ann Reed, A Major Label

Waiting For The Dough, Writings, Drawings & Non-prize-winning Recipes, book, Phyllis Goldin and Wanda Brown

Grounds For Peace, anthology of writings on peace, Women Against Military Madness

An Affair With My City, book of short stories and essays, Max Goldin, Canadian Authors' Association

* published by GoldinBrown Productions

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The incentive to produce this recording came from The Anderson Center for Interdisciplinary Studies on the banks of the Cannon River, in Red Wing, Minnesota, where I was privileged to be in residence as a jazz composer in May, 1998. I won’t soon forget how unseasonably warm the month was and how spring and summer wild flowers bloomed simultaneously on the Cannon Valley Trail. In this atmosphere of abundance, during a morning walk marked by strong contrast of sunlight and shadow, three Orioles landed in a nearby tree. I stopped for a few moments to listen to their plaintive song. In an enchanted state, I captured their melody and rhythm and during the rest of my residency, completed the title composition, "Overture to Orioles on the Cannon Valley Trail."

Friends at The Anderson Center were taken with the piece and asked if I could produce a recording. In appreciation for their confidence in my work, I offer these piano compositions. They blend my classical, folk and blues influences with an ever-increasing proclivity to jazz.

- Phyllis Goldin

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