# House Oratorio

music by Pamela J. Marshall poems by Marian Kaplun Shapiro for SATB chorus and piano

from the set "Songs from a Quaker Heart"





## Poems by Marian Kaplun Shapiro

# 1. Before (The) After (Quaker Meeting)

Quiet. Door open. Bird sings. Quiet. Bird sings. Tree sways. Breeze bends branches. Quiet. You rise. Consider the leaf, you say, that's blown through the door. Like the spirit, free to come in. You sit. Quiet. Quiet.

## 2. Life

if when or how but why not and but and how if why or not if and or why but how but how why if and why and if but but why and but and and and and and and

"Leaves" and "Life" from *Players in the Dream, Dreamers in the Play* (Plain View Press, 2006), other poems from poet's manuscript. All poems copyright Marian Kaplun Shapiro. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.

## 3. Leaves

parachuting through the crosswinds of autumn, dancing on remembrances of hurricanes and summer thunderstorms and spring drenchings and late-May hail, and last March's final blizzard and on intimations of this winter's January ice-rain/ snow-showers and puffy mattresses of softest whitewhitewhite without surcease. November. You December. are leaving. You have left. Where have you gone, my friend? Where have you gone?

# 4. Spring Sunlight

Green leaves growing Photograph fading

Hair greying Forsythia yellowing

Turtles mating Candlestick tarnishing

Sparrow waking me. You sleeping.

## 5. Christmas Oratorio

House quiet

No one home

It's our time at last, sings Refrigerator, a baritone. Clock adds her gentle castanet. Light Bulb takes up his drone. Mischievous Wind picks up her flute. A playful trill, while Raindrop taps its metronome on the patio. Oil burner growls its deep ground bass. Computer enters on middle C, delivering an email. iphone echoes him an octave higher.

Wait! Is that a child calling from the sidewalk?

poem by Marian Kaplun Shapiro

5. House Oratorio

music by Pamela J. Marshall



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# Selected Music by Pamela J. Marshall

#### Orchestra

Triptoe Suite (2222-4221, 1pc, timp, strings) in 4 mvts Through the Mist (2222-2220, harp, 3pc, timp, strings) in 3 mvts A chill wind in autumn (solo voice, 2222-4221-3pc, strings) Traditional Christmas (treble chorus or soloist, 2222-4221, harp, 3pc, timp, strings) Three Appalachian Carols (2222-4231, harp, 2pc, timp, strings)

#### Keyboard

Suite for harpsichord or piano For piano: Daydream, Stomp, Imagine That Time Stops Wordless Prayer for piano or organ Playbook (Pacem Student Composing Project) for piano

### Vocal

Deepest Shade for SATB chorus The Future of Life for SATB chorus, trombone, piano Shepherds and Angels for SATB chorus, violin, harp, tamborine Weaving the World for SATB chorus, oboe, piano Windshine for SATB chorus and cello Wordless Prayer for SATB chorus

The Bee Song for SSAA or SATB chorus, piano Grand grand mother is returning for SSAA or SATB chorus, piano

Body and Soul Vol.1 for mezzo-soprano and string trio Body and Soul Vol.2 for soprano, flute, cello, piano Ariel's Songs for high or medium voice and piano Remember the Old Songs for high voice and piano Sky's Mirror for voice and cello A chill wind in autumn for voice and piano

## Strings

Arcanum for solo violin, Soliloquy for solo cello Elusive Sleep for cello and piano Pascal's Theorems for cello and doublebass Truth Becoming for string quartet Soliloquy for cello Rising for viola Quinteto sobre las poemas de Carlos Pintado for violin, viola, cello, doublebass, piano Through the Mist for flute, violin, harp or guitar

## Winds & Brass

Poetry-Inspired solos for flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn Enchanted for oboe and chamber orchestra or piano Wanderer for brass quintet Resonances for alto saxophone, trumpet, 2 trombones, percussion Waves and Fountains for oboe, horn, piano "wild horn whose voice the woodland fills" for 8 horns Black Bear Dance for horn quartet (or choir) and drums Zoa for flute and harp

### Recordings

Through the Mist, Ravello Records. Chamber music for winds, strings, harp Visit www.spindrift.com for complete list. Demos available for many titles