



Richard
DANIELPOUR

**Songs in Three
Languages**

Songs of Love and Loss

Canti Della Natura

Songs of My Father

**Hila Plitmann,
Soprano**

**The Iranshahr
Orchestra**

Shahāb Pāranj



Songs of Love and Loss (2020)

14:49

Text: Rumi (Jalāl al-Dīn Muḥammad Rūmī) (1207–1273)

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|------|
| 1 | No. 1. Exuberant | 2:17 |
| 2 | No. 2. Misterioso | 2:55 |
| 3 | No. 3. Triste | 3:54 |
| 4 | No. 4. Andante (Simply flowing) | 3:55 |
| 5 | No. 5. Lively | 1:48 |

Canti Della Natura (2021)

33:05

Text: attrib. Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741)

Estate ('Summer')

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|------|
| 6 | No. 1. Moderato e cantabile | 3:53 |
| 7 | No. 2. Maestoso | 2:29 |

Autunno ('Autumn')

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|------|
| 8 | No. 3. Grazioso | 1:49 |
| 9 | No. 4. Larghetto (languid) | 2:42 |
| 10 | No. 5. Lively, leggiero ben misurato | 1:41 |

Inverno ('Winter')

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------|------|
| 11 | No. 6. Molto moderato | 2:05 |
| 12 | No. 7. Adagio con rubato | 4:16 |
| 13 | No. 8. Con moto | 2:13 |

Cambio di Stagione ('Change of Season')

- | | | |
|----|---|------|
| 14 | No. 9. (Intermezzo): Molto adagio teneramente | 4:21 |
|----|---|------|

Primavera ('Spring')

- | | | |
|----|--|------|
| 15 | No. 10. Con moto | 2:41 |
| 16 | No. 11. Largo | 1:50 |
| 17 | No. 12. Finale (Country Dance): Scherzando | 3:05 |

Songs of My Father (2021)

10:22

Text: Sayid Danielpour (1925–1977)

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|------|
| 18 | No. 1. Grazioso e cantabile | 4:55 |
| 19 | No. 2. Floating, as if in a dream | 2:24 |
| 20 | No. 3. Molto moderato | 3:03 |

Richard Danielpour (b. 1956)

Songs of Love and Loss • Canti Della Natura • Songs of My Father

I have known Hila Plitmann since 2010; since that time, we have collaborated on seven different works together. She has sung my music on five different Naxos recordings over the years (*Ancient Voices*, 8.578311-12; *Darkness in the Ancient Valley*, 8.559707; *The Passion of Yeshua*, 8.559885-86; *Toward a Season of Peace*, 8.559772; *String Quartet No. 7 'Psalms of Solace'*, 8.559845). We have each had such a productive professional relationship with Naxos of America and with one another, so it seemed fitting that we should create a recording together of three new works of mine, two of which were commissioned and composed expressly for Hila.

I chose the three works on this album – *Songs of Love and Loss*, *Canti Della Natura* ('Songs of Nature'), and *Songs of My Father* – in part because each work is in a different language. Each of these languages has been important and central to me throughout my life: *Songs of Love and Loss* is in Farsi, the language of my Persian ancestors; *Canti Della Natura* is in Italian, which is a language that I speak fluently from my many years of living in Italy; and *Songs of My Father* is derived from poems in English that were written by my father, Sayid Danielpour. These poems of my father, which have remained very dear to me throughout the years, were written in 1964 as love letters to my mother.

I am particularly pleased that in this recording each of these song cycles employ a different instrumentation. *Songs of Love and Loss* is written for voice and string orchestra, while *Canti Della Natura* accompanies the voice with piano and obbligato cello. *Songs of My Father* employs the most delicate of the three instrumentations with harp and viola complementing the voice.

The text in *Songs of Love and Loss* comes from the great Persian poet Rumi, whose poems were composed over 800 years ago. Many of Rumi's texts still resonate with relevance and poignancy today. The Iranshahr Orchestra, a new ensemble in Los Angeles devoted to Persian culture, is conducted artfully by its founder and music director Shahāb Pāranj. This five-movement song cycle was commissioned in 2019 by the Tucson Desert Song Festival, and it was premiered in Tucson on 17 January 2020, with Ms. Plitmann and assisting artists.

All the instrumentalists accompanying Ms. Plitmann are wonderful artists whose sensitivity and refined approach throughout the process was a blessing in the making of this recording. Pianist Inna Faliks and cellist Antonio Lysy both shine in *Canti Della Natura*. The text for this cycle is attributed to Antonio Vivaldi. These sonnets, which accompanied the first printed edition of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, are not nearly as well known as the work associated with them, but they have a particular presence and power of their own. The sonnets give voice to the natural cycle of birth, death, and rebirth, which is a common theme in all three works on this album. One of my favorite tracks on the entire album is the *Intermezzo* 14, which is an interlude for cello and piano alone. The work was commissioned in 2019 by the Curtis Institute of Music and Ken Lipper to celebrate the 80th birthday of our mutual friend Nicola Bulgari. Soprano Elena Perroni sang several performances of the cycle in Europe during the fall of 2022 with "Curtis on Tour," while the American premiere was presented at the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia on 19 April 2023, with Ms. Perroni and assisting artists from Curtis.

Harpist Marcia Dickstein and violist David Walther accompany Ms. Plitmann with grace and tenderness in the three *Songs of My Father*. This cycle is perhaps the gentlest of the three works on the album. It was commissioned in 2021 by Marcia Dickstein and the Debussy Trio. The first performance was given in Los Angeles on 27 April 2022, with Marcia Dickstein, David Walther, and Ms. Plitmann.

A very crucial part of making a good recording possible is a copyist who can prepare scores and performance materials that make the process clear and straightforward. Anthony Constantino engraved all three of these works and made appropriate revisions after the initial premieres to ensure that we had a dependable final edition for each of the pieces on this recording.

And finally, this recording would not have been possible without our producer, Gordon Bahary, who produced and engineered the album. Steve Kaplan was also secured as an engineer to assist in the Ostin Recording Studio at UCLA in April 2023. Creating a consistent and cohesive recording of these vastly different ensembles provided a unique challenge which Gordon readily accepted, and he masterfully delivered an overall sound that we can all be proud of for many years.

Richard Danielpour

Songs of Love and Loss

Texts: Rumi (Jalāl al-Dīn Muḥammad Rūmī) (1207–1273)

1 No. 1. Exuberant

Rubiyat

Dani ke che mi-gooyad een bang-e rabab
Andar pey-eman biya-orah ra daryab
Zira be khata rah bari sooye savab
Zira be sal rah bari sooye javab

*Listen while the music plays
Can you hear what it has to say?
Always searching you will go,
Until the answer is yours to know.
The road is clear for you to see
The answer found that sets you free.*

2 No. 2. Misterioso

Rubiyat

Emshab amad khiyale an delbar-e chust
Dar khaneye tan magham-e del ra mijust
Del ra cho biyaft, zood khan-jar be-ke shid.
Zad bar del-e man ke dast-o bazoosh dorost

*Tonight, the beloved phantom came
And in radiant light, sought within my body
The core of my soul.
Failing to find it there,
He bore his dagger, and with unflinching art,
Thrust it deep within my heart.*

3 No. 3. Triste

Rubiyat

Gar man miram marah biyarid shomah
Mordeh bengare man separid shomah
Gar booseh dahand bar lab-e poosideye man
Gar zende shavam ajab madarid shomah

*If I die
Please carry me
To the place where my beloved lies
And if he gives me one kiss
On my frigid lips,
Do not be surprised that in this kiss,
Yet again, I live.*

4 No. 4. Andante (Simply flowing)

Rubiyat

Yek chand be taghlid ghozidam khud ra,
Nadideh hami nam shenidam khud ra,
Dar khud buddam zan nasazidam khud ra,
As khud cho boroon shudam, bedidam, khud ra.

*For years, copying others, I tried to know myself.
From within, I knew not what to do,
Unable to see, I heard my name being called,
Then I stepped outside and saw myself.*

5 No. 5. Lively

Rubiyat

Tambour cho' tan tan bararad be nava',
Zangir daran shavad dele bi sar o pa.
Zira ke nahan dar zehash Avaz-e kasi
Migooyad ke josteh hamrah: Biya!

*As the Tambour's beat permeates the air
My helpless heart is taken prisoner.
A distant voice emerges from the beating drum,
And beckons, here is where your path is, Come!*

English translations: Richard Danielpour (b. 1956)

Canti Della Natura ('Songs of Nature')

*Texts: The Four Seasons Sonnets
attributed to Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741)*

6-7 Estate

Sotto dura Staggon dal Sole accesa
Langue l'huom, langue 'l gregge, ed arde il Pino;

Scioglie il Cucco la Voce, e tosto intesa
Canta la Tortorella e 'l gardelino.

Zeffiro dolce Spira, mà contesa
Muove Borea improvviso al Suo vicino;
E piange il Pastorel, perche sospesa
Teme fiera borasca, e 'l suo destino;

Toglie alle membra lasse il Suo riposo
Il timore de' Lampi, e tuoni fieri
E de mosche, e mossoni il Stuoil furioso!

Ah che pur troppo i Suo timor Son veri
Tuona e fulmina il Ciel e grandioso
Tronca il capo alle Spiche e a' grani alteri.

Summer

*Under a hard Season, fired up by the Sun
Languishes man, languishes the flock
and burns the pine*

*We hear the cuckoo's voice;
then sweet songs of the turtledove
and finch are heard.*

*Soft breezes stir the air, but threatening
the North Wind sweeps them suddenly aside.
The shepherd trembles,
fearing violent storms and his fate.*

*The fear of lightning and fierce thunder
Robs his tired limbs of rest
As gnats and flies buzz furiously around.*

*Alas, his fears were justified
The Heavens thunders and roar and with hail
Cuts the head off the wheat and damages the grain.*

8–10 Autunno

Celebra il Vilanel con balli e Canti
Del felice raccolto il bel piacere
E del liquor de Bacco accesi tanti
Finiscono col Sonno il lor godere

Fà ch' ogn' uno tralasci e balli e canti

L' aria che temperata dà piacere,
E la Staggion ch' invita tanti e tanti
D' un dolcissimo Sonno al bel godere.

I cacciator alla nov' alba à caccia
Con corni, Schioppi, e canni escono fuore

Fugge la belua, e Seguono la traccia;
Già Sbigottita, e lassa al gran rumore
De' Schioppi e canni, ferita minaccia
Languida di fuggir, mà oppressa muore.

11–14 Inverno

Aggiacciato tremar trà neri argenti
Al Severo Spirar d' orrido Vento,
Correr battendo i piedi ogni momento;
E pel Soverchio gel batter i denti;

Passar al foco i di quieti e contenti
Mentre la pioggia fuor bagna ben cento

Caminar Sopra 'l giaccio, e à passo lento
Per timor di cader gersene intenti;
Gir forte Sdruzzolar, cader à terra
Di nuove ir Sopra 'l giaccio e correr forte
Sin ch' il giaccio si rompe, e si disserra;

Sentir uscir dalle ferrate porte
Sirocco Borea, e tutti i Venti in guerra
Quest' é 'l verno, mà tal, che gioja apporta.

Autumn

*Celebrates the peasant, with songs and dances,
The pleasure of a bountiful harvest.
And fired up by Bacchus' liquor,
many end their revelry in sleep.*

*Everyone is made to forget their cares
and to sing and dance
By the air which is tempered with pleasure
And (by) the season that invites so many, many
Out of their sweetest slumber to fine enjoyment*

*The hunters emerge at the new dawn,
And with horns and dogs and guns
depart upon their hunting
The beast flees and they follow its trail;
Terrified and tired of the great noise
Of guns and dogs, the beast, wounded, threatens
Languidly to flee, but harried, dies.*

Winter

*To tremble from cold in the icy snow,
In the harsh breath of a horrid wind;
To run, stamping one's feet every moment,
Our teeth chattering in the extreme cold*

*Before the fire to pass peaceful,
Contented days while the rain outside pours down.*

*We tread the icy path slowly and cautiously,
for fear of tripping and falling.
Then turn abruptly, slip, crash on the ground and,
rising, hasten on across the ice lest it cracks up.
We feel the chill north winds course
through the home
despite the locked and bolted doors...
this is winter, which nonetheless
brings its own delights.*

15–17 Primavera

Giunt' è la Primavera e festosetti
La Salutan gl' Augei con lieto canto,
E i fonti allo Spirar de' Zeffiretti
Con dolce mormorio Scorrano intanto:
Vengon' coprendo l' aer di nero amanto
E Lampi, e tuoni ad annuntiarla eletti
Indi tacendo questi, gl' Augelletti;
Tornan' di nuovo al lor canoro incanto:

E quindi sul fiorito ameno prato
Al caro mormorio di fronde e piante
Dorme 'l Caprar col fido can' à lato.

Di pastoral Zampogna al suon festante
Danzan Ninfe e Pastor nel tetto amato
Di primavera all' apparir brillante.

Songs of My Father

Poems by Sayid Danielpour (1925–1977)

18 No. 1. Grazioso e cantabile

Being away from you pains me. My thoughts wander in relish of anticipation.
My soul reaches but cannot grasp the full beauty of your spirit.
Days pass in silence. My melancholy mind continues after its eternal search.
For knowledge, for peace, for all truths on earth I strive but the journey has
no end.

If love be my guide, I can travel this road of life with ease. If love be by my
side, there will be smiles instead of frowns on the harsh faces of reality.
I feel I should make haste after my search, lest time run away from my grasp.

Spring

*Springtime is upon us.
The birds celebrate her return with festive song,
and murmuring streams are
softly caressed by the breezes.
Thunderstorms, those heralds of Spring, roar,
casting their dark mantle over heaven,
Then they die away to silence,
and the birds take up their charming songs
once more.*

*On the flower-strewn meadow, with leafy branches
rustling overhead, the goat-herd sleeps,
his faithful dog beside him.*

*Led by the festive sound of rustic bagpipes,
nymphs and shepherds lightly dance
beneath the brilliant canopy of spring.*

*English translations: Stefano Greco © 2019.
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19 No. 2. Floating, as if in a dream

If only life's end would come like a breath of wind that takes away the remaining leaves of autumn, or like smoke at its source, thick and heavy, but then while spreading, disappears and combines with every particle of the air.

20 No. 3. Molto moderato

With your cry I heard the cry of the unborn blossoms, the pleading of rosebuds not yet born. The love laden words passed between us could have filled many a book of songs. The angels were glad for us. You now lay still in my arms with no rebellion. Your face warm and comforting, your lips velvet soft were in my possession. With youth's glory awake in us both, we slept with a prayer upon our lips.

Sayid Danielpour © 1968. Used with permission.

Hila Plitmann



Two-time GRAMMY Award-winning soprano, songwriter, and actress Hila Plitmann is known for opera, concert, film, and theater performances filled with emotionally charged fearlessness, unique expressivity, and mesmerizing drama. She rose to prominence after premiering a work by Del Tredici with the New York Philharmonic just one year after graduating from Juilliard – on only two weeks' notice – and has since become a frequent soloist on major stages across the world. Widely recognized as one of today's foremost interpreters of contemporary music, she regularly performs new works by a diverse array of composers, as well as traditional repertoire, and boundary-pushing projects in non-classical genres. With jazz guitarist Shea Welsh and tabla virtuoso Aditya Kalyanpur, she co-founded global music project Renaissance Heart. Her tour-de-force role in Eric Whitacre's groundbreaking electro-musical *Paradise Lost: Shadows and Wings* at Boston Court Pasadena, involving singing, acting, dancing, and martial arts, won her a nomination as Best Actress in a Musical from the Los Angeles Ovation Awards and Ticketholder Awards. She leads innovative residencies and workshops at campuses across the United States, bringing diverse pedagogical methods combining technical focus, tools and approaches for connecting, and a sense of inner confidence, mindfulness, centering, and presence. www.hilaplitmann.com

David Walther



Violist and composer David Walther joined The Debussy Trio in 1999 and has subsequently performed hundreds of recitals and children's concerts both domestically and abroad. Four albums of music commissioned and recorded by the trio have been commercially released, all to critical acclaim. He was a founding member of the New Hollywood String Quartet, and currently performs with the California String Quartet. As an LA studio musician Walther has contributed to over seven hundred soundtracks for movies and television. He has written pieces ranging from symphonies, songs, chamber music, solo instrumental, and incidental music, and has released two recordings of his own chamber music on the Albany Records label: *Threads of the Heart* (2013), and *Distance* (2021).

Antonio Lysy (1963–2024)



An artist of international stature and dedicated pedagogue, Antonio Lysy performed as a soloist in major concert halls worldwide. He collaborated with distinguished conductors including Yuri Temirkanov, Charles Dutoit, Sir Yehudi Menuhin, Sándor Végh, and Kees Bakels, and performed regularly both as a solo and chamber music artist. Lysy recorded extensively for CBC Radio, BBC Radio, Classic FM, and other radio networks. He enjoyed exploring the versatility of the cello's voice, from Baroque to electric, and was committed to projects that enriched his diverse musical interests. Based on his Latin GRAMMY Award-winning album, the touring multimedia show *Te Amo, Argentina* met with widespread acclaim. Lysy taught at the University of California, Los Angeles for 20 years from 2003.

Inna Faliks



Ukrainian-born pianist Inna Faliks has established herself as one of the most communicative and poetic artists of her generation. She has collaborated with composers Timo Andres, Billy Childs, Richard Danielpour, Clarice Assad and others, and created the interdisciplinary projects *Music/Words* and *Polonaise-Fantaisie: The Story of a Pianist*. Faliks has performed solo recitals at major international venues, and chamber music recitals with Gilbert Kalish, Rachel Barton Pine and Fred Sherry among numerous other noted artists. Her discography includes *Manuscripts Don't Burn* (Sono Luminus, 2024), and her memoir, *Weight in the Fingertips: A Musical Odyssey from Soviet Ukraine to the World Stage* was published by Backbeat Books in 2023. Faliks is a professor and head of piano at the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music. www.innafaliks.com

Marcia Dickstein



Harpist Marcia Dickstein has commissioned and/or premiered over 175 compositions by American composers, appeared on numerous chamber music and solo recordings including the award-winning *3 Friends*, *Chamber Music of Arnold Bax* and the latest with The Debussy Trio, *Angles of Angeles* (Klavier, Harmonia Mundi, and RCM labels), and played on over 500 film scores, including *Toy Story 1–4*, *La La Land* and *Oppenheimer*. Dickstein has performed and recorded with Snoop Dogg, Taylor Swift, Stevie Wonder and Childish Gambino. As founder/artistic director of The Debussy Trio, now in its 35th year, she has performed worldwide, and over NPR radio and on commercial and PBS television. She also plays with the Long Beach Symphony and freelances in Los Angeles.

The Iranshahr Orchestra



The Iranshahr Orchestra is driven by a profound mission dedicated to providing steadfast support for composers, performers, and educators, with a primary focus on the promotion and preservation of Iranian music. Annually, the orchestra takes pride in commissioning, performing, and presenting premieres of works written by Iranian composers. The Iranshahr Orchestra distinguishes itself as a culturally diverse orchestra/ensemble with a platform, aesthetic, organization, and structure rooted beyond European musical ideas and aesthetics. While incorporating instruments from Iran and neighboring countries, it is not confined to the Western classical orchestra format. Avāz-e Jān, an ongoing project that collaborates with prominent Iranian musicians, and the commissioning of distinguished works by composers such as Richard Danielpour, Reza Vali, and Ian Krouse, stand out as highlights in The Iranshahr Orchestra's recent endeavors. www.iranshahrorchestra.org

With profound gratitude, The Iranshahr Orchestra acknowledges the generous support of the Farhang Foundation for the recording of Songs of Love and Loss.

Violin I

Xenia Deviatkina-Loh, Concertmaster
Boryana Popova, April Paik,
Mizuki Takagi, Alec Norkey

Violin II

Aya Kiyonaga, Principal Second
Isabella Mija Reyes, Enosh Kofler,
Madalyn Parnas

Viola

Ben Bartelt, Principal
Jonathan Burns, Charlotte Good, Connie Song,
Kellen McDaniel, Jordan Warmath

Cello

Ismael Guerrero, Principal I
Daniel Lim, Jaewon Ahn, I
Niall Taro Ferguson, Berber Heerema,
Peter Walsh, II

Double Bass

Nick Leonard, Principal
Sukyung Chun

Harp

Marcia Volger

Shahāb Pāranj



Recipient of the 2024 Hoefler Prize, Shahāb Pāranj is an Iranian-American composer, conductor, instrumentalist, and educator. Renowned as a pioneer among his generation, he excels in both Western classical and Persian music, demonstrating outstanding expertise in both professional and academic spheres. Known for integrating Persian and Western composition techniques, he has received commissions from respected ensembles and organizations, such as the Russian String Orchestra, Intersection Contemporary Music Ensemble, Long Beach Opera, and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. As a tombak virtuoso, he has performed, recorded, and collaborated with some of the most celebrated artists worldwide. He holds degrees in music composition from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, the Manhattan School of Music, and the University of California, Los Angeles, where he received his PhD. Pāranj is the founder and music director of The Iranshahr Orchestra and the artistic director of Du Vert à L'infini, a contemporary music festival in the Franche-Comté region of France. He currently serves as a faculty member at the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music. www.paranj.com

Richard Danielpour



Photo: Claudia Christian

GRAMMY Award-winning composer Richard Danielpour has established himself as one of the most gifted and sought-after composers of his generation. His music has attracted an international and illustrious array of champions, and, as a devoted mentor and educator, he has also had a significant impact on the younger generation of composers over the past 30 years. His list of commissions include some of the most celebrated artists of our day including Yo-Yo Ma, Jessye Norman, Susan Graham, the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, the Guarneri and Emerson String Quartets, the New York City, Pacific Northwest and Nashville Ballets, and institutions such as the New York Philharmonic, Orchestre National de France, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, and many more. With Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison, Danielpour created *Margaret Garner*, his first opera, which premiered in 2005. He has received two awards from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, including a Lifetime Achievement Award; a Guggenheim Award; the Bearn Prize from Columbia University; two Rockefeller Foundation Fellowships; and The Berlin Prize from the American Academy in Berlin. He served on the composition faculty of the Manhattan School of Music from 1993 to 2017 and is currently professor of music at the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music and a member of the faculty of the Curtis Institute of Music.

In April 2019, JoAnn Falletta led the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus in performances of *The Passion of Yeshua*. The subsequent album (Naxos 8.559885-86) was nominated for three GRAMMY Awards in 2021, winning in the category of Best Choral Performance.

In 2020, the Oregon Bach Festival commissioned Danielpour to compose *An American Mosaic* as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pianist Simone Dinnerstein gave a livestreamed premiere and the critically acclaimed corresponding album, released on Supertrain Records, was recently nominated for a GRAMMY Award for Best Classical Instrumental Solo.

In 2021, Danielpour was commissioned by Orchestra della Toscana to write a piece for the 700th anniversary of Dante's death, making him the first American composer in nearly 40 years to be commissioned by a major Italian orchestra, and clarinetist Anthony McGill premiered Danielpour's *Four Angels* with the Catalyst Quartet. That same year, he was given a lifetime achievement award from the Cremona Music Festival and was awarded the Covell Chair from UCLA to support the composition and production of his opera *The Grand Hotel Tartarus*, which received its world premiere at the Freud Playhouse in Los Angeles in May 2024. Premieres in 2023/24 include *The Unhealed Wound*, a cantata composed for baritone Eric Owens and mezzo-soprano Amanda Lynn Bottoms; *Breaking the Veil*

and *Triptych*, both premiered by the ROCO chamber orchestra; and *Agnus Dei* performed by The Golden Bridge chorus conducted by Suzi Digby.

Danielpour is one of the most recorded composers of his generation; many of his recordings can be found on the Naxos and Sony Classical labels. Danielpour's music is published by Lean Kat Music and Associated Music Publishers. www.richard-danielpour.com

Richard
DANIELPOUR
(b. 1956)

Songs in Three Languages

- 1–5** Songs of Love and Loss (2020) **14:49**
6–17 Canti Della Natura (2021) **33:05**
18–20 Songs of My Father (2021) **10:22**

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS

Hila Plitmann, Soprano **1–13** **15–20**,
Tambourine **1** **5**

David Walther, Viola **18–20**

Antonio Lysy, Cello **6–17**

Inna Faliks, Piano **6–17**

Marcia Dickstein, Harp **18–20**

The Iranshahr Orchestra **1–5**

Shahāb Pāranj **1–5**

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

The sung texts and English translations can be found inside the booklet, and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/559946.htm

Recorded: 27–28 **6–17**, 29 **18–20** and 30 **1–5** April 2023
at the Recording Studio, Evelyn & Mo Ostin Music Center,
UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, Los Angeles, USA

Producer: Gordon Bahary

Engineers: Gordon Bahary, Steve Kaplan • Editor: Steve Kaplan

Booklet notes: Richard Danielpour • Publisher: Lean Kat Music

Cover: *Scheherazade in Blue* by Nasser Ovissi (b. 1934)
(used with the kind permission of Mehri Danielpour Weil)



AMERICAN CLASSICS

Richard Danielpour has collaborated frequently with soprano Hila Plitmann, and this album features three recent works, two of which were written specifically for her. The song cycles heard here are sung in three languages central to the composer's life. *Songs of Love and Loss* is in Farsi and sets the poetry of Rumi; *Canti Della Natura*, in Italian, takes sonnets attributed to Vivaldi in *The Four Seasons*; while *Songs of My Father* is set to the English poems of Danielpour's father. Each cycle features differing instrumentation and reflects Danielpour's long-admired compositional subtlety and refinement.

www.naxos.com

Playing
Time:
59:19