

**University of Texas at El Paso**

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**From the Selected Works of Elisa Fraser Wilson**

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April 2, 2008

## Still Falls the Rain: New Songs in the Desert

Elisa Fraser Wilson, *University of Texas at El Paso*



SELECTEDWORKS™

Available at: [http://works.bepress.com/elisa\\_fraser\\_wilson/59/](http://works.bepress.com/elisa_fraser_wilson/59/)

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO DEPARTMENT OF

# Music

PRESENTS

**Still Falls the Rain...  
New Songs in the Desert**

**Stephen Jackson, composer**

Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008  
Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall 7:30pm

## PROGRAM

*Come, Woeful Orpheus (William Byrd 1543 -1623)*

Dr. Elisa Wilson – Mezzo-Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

*Ancestors (Dr. Anita Barrows - Contemporary)*

1 – 5

Dr. Orit Eylon – Mezzo-Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

*In Evening Air (Theodore Roethke 1908 - 1963)*

1 – 4

Steven Jones – Tenor / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

*Three Songs for High Soprano (Sara Teasdale 1884 - 1933)*

1. *Barter*

2. *Come*

3. *At Night*

Ellen Wilson – Soprano / Dr. Dominic Dousa – Accompanist

*A Small Menagerie (Theodore Roethke 1908 - 1963)*

1. *The Yak*

2. *The Whale*

3. *The Donkey*

Barbara Yarber – Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

*From "A House in Amherst" (Emily Dickinson 1830-1886)*

1. *Have you got a brook in your little heart*

2. *My river runs to thee*

Dr. Elisa Wilson – Mezzo-Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

*Still Falls the Rain (Dame Edith Sitwell 1887 - 1964)*

Mary Haddad – Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

## INTERMISSION

## PROGRAM NOTES

It's been at least 10 years since I've written program notes for a composition recital, and the task never seems to get any easier. With the exception of the songs in the Emily Dickinson cycle, all of these pieces were composed in the last 10 months while I was convalescing from lymphoma. I could write some sort of detailed synopsis of what brought each of these pieces to fruition, but ultimately, they are all a celebration of life, both dark and bright. In many ways, the universe has given me a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance to listen to the creative spirit in and around us all. It is my sincere hope that something in this concert reaches out to you and reminds you to cherish each day and those who are close to you.

I have been honored to have the opportunity to work with the singers and pianists who have come together to perform these works, and I am grateful to everyone who has worked both on stage and behind the scenes to make this performance possible. I would be remiss if I didn't extend a few formal thanks

To the Doctors, Nurses and Staff at Thomason Hospital for bringing me back to the land of the living...

To the Angels of El Paso... for everything you give to those around you.

To all the singers who have tackled this music... none of which is easy to sing!

To Dr. Dominic Dousa for sponsoring this event...

To Helen and Walter Mott for their support of local vocal arts as well as my own personal projects...

To Adam and Barbie Schydlower at Desert Moon Academy of the Arts... for

To Esequiel Meza for his unremitting ability to bring new music to life... and for being a friend.

To Mary, Barbara and Ellen for believing...

To Adam and Barbie Schydlower at Desert Moon Academy of the Arts... for being a 2<sup>nd</sup> home for me...

To Margery Rehman and Anita Barrows for your words as well as your friendship...

"Be the change you want to see in the world." – Mahatma Ghandi

Stephen Jackson  
El Paso, TX 2008

If you would like further information about any of the pieces on this recital, please feel free to contact me at [scyo2@yahoo.com](mailto:scyo2@yahoo.com)

## PROGRAM

3)  
Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

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Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

184 - 1933)

Soprano / Dr. Dominic Dousa – Accompanist

33)

Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

1886)

Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

4)

Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

## INTERMISSION

*The Kitty-Cat Bird (Theodore Roethke 1908 - 1963)*

Dr. Elisa Wilson – Mezzo-Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

*On Another Floor (Ogden Nash 1902 - 1971)*

1. *Lines on Facing Forty*
2. *The Purist*
3. *The People Upstairs*

Ellen Wilson – Soprano / Dr. Dominic Dousa – Accompanist

*From "Bal Masque"*

1. *Pierrot's Song (Sara Teasdale 1884 - 1933)*
2. *Carnival Evening (Margery Rehman - Contemporary)*

Steven Jones – Tenor / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

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*Three Songs for Mezzo Soprano (Sara Teasdale 1884 - 1933)*

1. *Dusk in June*
2. *Dew*
3. *Desert Pools*

Dr. Elisa Wilson / Dr. Dominic Dousa – Accompanist

*Three Love Songs (Sylvia Plath 1932 - 1963)*

1. *Cinderella*
2. *Jilted*
3. *Mad Girl's Love Song*

Samantha Morales – Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

*The Serpent, Adam and I (Various Poets)*

1. *Theology (Ted Hughes 1930 - 1998)*
2. *Adam's Complaint (Denise Levertov 1923-1997)*
3. *I Didn't Go to Church Today (Ogden Nash 1902 - 1971)*

April Reneau – Soprano / Dr. Dominic Dousa – Accompanist

*Wild Geese (Mary Oliver - Contemporary)*

Marsha Watley – Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

*Hope (Phillip Booth - Contemporary)*

Dr. Elisa Wilson – Mezzo-Soprano / Dr. Esequiel Meza – Accompanist

**Please join us for a reception following the recital**