

is asked to play many long, high, sustained tones, extending an old song beyond recognition amidst a sea of diverse tune-licks and elaborations. Why mention this? The Violin Duo opens and closes with passages lifted from the solo work, thus "Song..." gets to be revived. Here I imagined the two players making time together, being two as one.

"... only one body / slow moving in the dark..."

by bell hooks from *Poem from the First Life*

Insofar as I was unable to find players, I asked David Frank Long – former UCLA-er now film composer – to do a MIDI version; he did so with LogicPro and an arsenal of orchestral string samples. David worked long and hard, was caring and scrupulous in every detail for which I am grateful.

--e.r.b., 2/09

"caves" is a poetic telling of a fantasy a friend of mine once had, in which a Paleolithic painter, a proto-artist is one woman among many, who withdraws to *the Great Hall of the Bulls* with every menstrual cycle to depict the animals with her own blood. The poem is dedicated to Gerrit Lansing. For this performance, Ben Boretz created the sound of a timeless flute, a hollow archetypal voice to dialogue here with my own.

sands sift through my mouth
in a soft milk of time

Slowinski National Park preserves a part of the Baltic southern coast with the largest sandy dunes in Europe which migrate under the influence of strong stormy winds. The park takes its name from an old ethnic group *Slowincy* - a Slav progeny - who once inhabited this area. My mind put in a resonance cage of that magic place where every July I returned to with my family for our summer vacation — with

the smell of peat-bog, lyme and beach grasses, of pine and cloudberry still deeply remembered, of yellow fishing boats still heard — radiates, echoes, calls back to events of the past laced with images of the sea mythology once read, or maybe only imagined in the dark, now inseparably bound together... “*dunes*” (here in a fragment) is a tender song of remembering.

d .c. 02/09

cd contents

[1] Dorota Czerner: <i>caves</i> (Dorota Czerner, voice; Ben Boretz, sound)	6:03
[2] Elaine Barkin: <i>Blanc</i> (for piano)	3:33
[3- 7] Elaine Barkin: <i>MIDI Suite</i>	
1. <i>Barely There</i>	1:45
2. <i>Whorl</i>	1:59
3. <i>Shadowplay</i>	2:37
4. <i>When the Wind Blows</i>	4:05
5. <i>Ending</i>	2:07
[8] Dorota Czerner: <i>dunes</i> (Dorota Czerner, voice)	8:25
[9] Elaine Barkin: Violin Duo	9:13

caves and *dunes* recorded and mastered 2009 by Ben Boretz

Blanc realized and mastered 2009 by Ben Boretz

MIDI Suite mastered 2008 by Loren Nerell

Violin Duo realized 2008 by David Frank Long

Produced for Open Space 2009 by Ben Boretz

photo of elaine barkin by amaya barkin / photo of dmuchawiec by dorota czerner / photo of dorota czerner by ben boretz

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