

*The Metropolitan Tower*  
*A Winter Night*  
*The Hour*  
*The Strong House*

*Lori Laitman*  
*(1955-)*

Lori Laitman's songs are a testament to the power of music to illuminate the depth and complexity of the human soul. Through her sensitive musical settings of poetry, Laitman invites listeners on a journey of introspection and discovery, reminding us of the beauty and fragility of life.

This collection of songs by Lori Laitman presents a captivating journey through diverse emotional landscapes, each piece offering a glimpse into the human experience through the lens of poetry and music.

### **The Metropolitan Tower**

"The Metropolitan Tower" opens this collection with a flourish, capturing the essence of New York City's iconic skyline. Set to evocative poetry, Lori Laitman's music paints a vivid portrait of urban life, from the bustling streets to the towering skyscrapers. Through soaring melodies and dynamic rhythms, Laitman invites listeners to experience the energy and excitement of the metropolis.

### **A Winter Night**

In "A Winter Night," Laitman transports us to a serene and contemplative landscape, where snowflakes fall gently from the sky and silence envelops the world. Through delicate harmonies and shimmering textures, the composer captures the hushed beauty of a winter evening, inviting listeners to embrace the stillness and tranquility of the season.

### **Strong House**

"Strong House" offers a poignant exploration of resilience and endurance in the face of adversity. Set to powerful poetry, Lori Laitman's music conveys the strength and fortitude of the human spirit, even in the darkest of times. Through stirring melodies and rich harmonies, the composer reminds us of the power of hope and determination to overcome life's challenges.

## **The Hour**

The collection concludes with "The Hour," a haunting reflection on the passage of time and the fleeting nature of existence. Through ethereal melodies and evocative harmonies, Lori Laitman's music captures the ephemeral beauty of the present moment, inviting listeners to savor each precious second as it slips away. In the poetry's exploration of mortality and the inevitability of change, the composer offers a poignant meditation on the human experience.

## **Che farò senza Euridice**

**C.W. Gluck**  
**(1714 - 1787)**

"Che farò senza Euridice" is one of the most famous arias from Christoph Willibald Gluck's opera "Orfeo ed Euridice." Gluck, a German composer of the Classical period, is renowned for his reform of opera seria, seeking to create a more naturalistic and emotionally expressive form of musical theater. "Orfeo ed Euridice," first performed in 1762, is a prime example of Gluck's innovative approach, blending elements of Italian opera seria with French operatic style.

"Che farò senza Euridice" is sung by the character Orfeo, the legendary musician and poet who descends into the underworld to rescue his beloved wife Euridice. In this poignant aria, Orfeo laments the loss of Euridice after failing to obey the gods' command not to look back at her during their journey back to the world of the living.

## **Alte Liebe**

**J. Brahms**  
**(1833 – 1897)**

"Alte Liebe" is a poignant song composed by Johannes Brahms, one of the leading figures of the Romantic era. "Alte Liebe" explores the theme of enduring love and nostalgia for the past. Set to the poetry of Ludwig Uhland, the song reflects on the bittersweet memories of a past love and the longing for its return.

The song is written in a slow tempo, allowing the singer to linger on the poignant phrases of the text. Brahms' sensitive treatment of the melody and accompaniment creates a sense of intimacy and emotional resonance, drawing listeners into the narrator's world of longing and remembrance.

## **Der Kanke**

**E.W. Korngold**  
**(1897 – 1957)**

"Der Kranke" is a poignant art song by Erich Wolfgang Korngold, renowned for his contributions to Viennese music in the 20th century. It explores themes of illness and existential despair. Through expressive melodies and rich harmonies, Korngold captures the protagonist's inner turmoil as he grapples with physical pain and emotional anguish.

## ***Du meines Herzens Krönelein***

**R. Strauss**  
**(1864 – 1949)**

This is a charming art song composed by Richard Strauss, a leading figure in German Romantic music. Known for his rich harmonic language and lyrical melodies, Strauss crafted this song as part of his collection of lieder, showcasing his mastery of vocal writing and expressive storytelling. "Du meines Herzens Krönelein" expresses sentiments of love and devotion.

## ***“Alcina” Ruggero’s Aria***

**G.F. Handel**  
**(1685 – 1759)**

Ruggero's Aria is a moment of introspection and longing within the opera. As Ruggero, a knight under Alcina's spell, grapples with conflicting emotions, this aria becomes a window into his inner turmoil. Handel's music beautifully captures Ruggero's vulnerability and resolve, making this aria a standout moment in the opera's narrative.

## ***Sogno***

**P. Tosti**

## ***Aprile***

**(1846 – 1916)**

## ***Malia***

## ***Non t'amo piu***

Paolo Tosti was an Italian composer and one of the most celebrated composers of art songs in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His songs are known for their melodic beauty, expressive lyricism, and intimate character. L

## **Sogno**

"Sogno" is a poignant reflection on the theme of longing and desire.

With its enchanting melodies and poignant lyrics, this song invites listeners on a journey of romantic longing and emotional depth, reminding us of the enduring power of music to touch the heart and soul.

## **Aprile**

This piece celebrates the arrival of springtime, capturing the joy and renewal of the season. Through its lilting melodies and uplifting harmonies, Aprile evokes the blossoming of flowers, the warmth of the sun, and the sense of anticipation that comes with the changing of the seasons.

## **Malia**

"Malia" explores the theme of seduction and desire, portraying the irresistible allure of love. It transports listeners to a world of romantic enchantment and emotional intensity.

## **Non t'amo piu**

"Non t'amo piu" translates to "I no longer love you" and explores the theme of lost love and heartbreak. The song unfolds with a sense of resignation and introspection, with Tosti's sensitive piano accompaniment providing a poignant backdrop for the impassioned vocal line.

## **"O chjom v tishi nochej"**

*N.R. Korsakov  
(1844 – 1908)*

This is a captivating choral work composed by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, one of the most prominent Russian composers of the 19th century. "O chjom v tishi nochej" is based on a Russian folksong and is set for unaccompanied choir. The piece explores themes of nature, contemplation, and the beauty of the night.

## ***Растворил я окно***

*P.I. Tchaikovsky  
(1840 – 1893)*

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, one of the most celebrated Russian composers of the 19th century. This piece explores themes of longing and nostalgia, as the protagonist reflects on lost love and the passage of time. With its evocative melodies and poignant lyrics, this song invites listeners to embark on a journey of introspection and reflection, reminding us of the universal experience of longing and nostalgia.

## **Звонче жаворонка пеньє**

*N.R. Korsakov  
(1844 – 1908)*

"Звонче жаворонка пеньє" captures the beauty of nature and the joy of song through its evocative melodies and poetic imagery. Set to a text by Alexander Pushkin, one of Russia's most celebrated poets, the song celebrates the sweetness and purity of the lark's song.

*Пленившись розой, соловей*

*N.R. Korsakov  
(1844 – 1908)*

"Пленившись розой, соловей" tells the story of a nightingale enchanted by the beauty of a rose. With its evocative melodies and vivid imagery, this song invites listeners to embark on a journey of enchantment and wonder, reminding us of the beauty and magic that can be found in the natural world.

*Qubanın ağ alması  
Axşam mahnısı  
Gözəlim sənsən  
Bakı*

*T. Guliyev  
(1917 – 2000)*

Tofig Guliyev, a prominent Azerbaijani composer, is renowned for his contributions to classical music. "Qubanın ağ alması," meaning "The Apples of Quba," is one of his notable compositions, capturing the beauty of the Quba region. "Gözəlim Sənsən" and "Axşam Mahnısı" are also beloved pieces, showcasing his mastery in melody and orchestration. Additionally, "Bakı" likely refers to his composition inspired by the capital city of Azerbaijan, Baku, reflecting its vibrant culture and history. Guliyev's works often blend traditional Azerbaijani motifs with Western classical influences, creating a unique and captivating musical experience.