

Ancient Voices

RICHARD DANIELPOUR

One of the most sought-after and decorated composers of his generation, Richard Danielpour refers to himself as "an American composer with a Middle Eastern memory". His distinctive voice is part of a rich neo-Romantic heritage which includes 20th century American and European composers alike. *Darkness in the Ancient Valley*, a symphony in five movements inspired by recent events in Iran, utilizes a wide range of Persian folk-melodies and Sufi rhythms. *Toward a Season of Peace* is an oratorio which explores violence and war in the name of religion, using the season of spring as a metaphor for change and transformation towards songs of peace through forgiveness. Danielpour's insistence on music having "an immediate visceral impact" can be heard throughout his oeuvre, and the beautifully translated Persian poetry and rich spirit of harmony in *Toward a Season of Peace* make it symbolic of a brighter future for our time.

The sung texts can be found in the booklet. *Darkness in the Ancient Valley* Recorded live in Laura Turner Hall, Schermerhorn Symphony Center, Nashville, Tennessee, USA, from 17th-19th November, 2011 Producer: Tim Handley • Engineer: Gary Call • Publishers: Lean Kat Music; *Toward a Season of Peace* Recorded live (24th March, 2012) and in concert (22nd-25th March, 2012) at the Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts, California, USA. Producer and editor: Blanton Alspaugh. Engineers: John Newton, Mark Donahue and Ted Ancona. Publisher: Lean Kat Music. Mastered by: Perry Sorensen. Booklet notes: Richard Danielpour; Cover painting by Nasser Ovissi. Design: Jefferson Rodriguez.



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CD 1

DARKNESS IN THE ANCIENT VALLEY (SYMPHONY IN FIVE MOVEMENTS) (2011)

01. Lamentation
02. Desecration
03. Benediction
04. Profanation
05. Finale: Consecration

CD 2

TOWARD A SEASON OF PEACE (2012)

01. I. Annunciation
02. II. Vision
03. III. Celebration
04. IV. Atonement
05. V. Consecration
06. VI. Parable
07. VII. Apotheosis

