

DINNER IN THE COURTYARD

For Mezzo-soprano, Alto Saxophone and Piano

Poem by

EMILY GROSHOLZ

Music by

BRUCE TRINKLEY

Dinner in the Courtyard
from *The River Painter* (1984)

*When summer tears the maple leaves
to lace, and blue shows through the green
like those imagined distances,
weaving through all things close at hand,
then sunset looms for hours upon
the scarlet tenements of day,
unraveling curtains, windowpanes
ablaze. The house is close, I say,*

*and move the table underneath
the arches of the maple tree.
Not even the curious neighbors know
if I am host or stranger here,
nor if this roof of leaf and air,
the little courtyard of the world, is home.*

Emily Grosholz grew up in Philadelphia. She received her B.A. at the University of Chicago and her Ph. D in philosophy at Yale University. Since 1978, she has taught at Penn State where she is now professor of philosophy and a Fellow of the Humanities Institute. Her poetry collections include *The River Painter* (1984), *Shores and Headlands* (1988), *Eden* (1992), and *The Abacus of Years* (2001).

Seasons: Inside-Outside was composed during residencies at The Hambidge Center for the Creative Arts and Sciences in Rabun Gap, Georgia; Ucross Foundation in Wyoming; and Dorland Mountain Arts Colony in Temecula, California.

1. Dinner in the Courtyard

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from *The River Painter* (1984)*

Bruce Trinkley

Tempo di tango ♩ = 112

Voice

Alto Sax

Piano

poco stringendo

mp *mf*

mp poco stringendo *mf*

con pedale

4

dim. *p*

When sum - mer tears the

mp *sempre legato*

8

ma - pleaves to lace, and blue shows through the green like those i - mag - ined

pp poco cresc.

12 *mf*
 dis - tanc-es, weav-ing through all things close at hand, then
p poco cresc. *mp*

16 *passionately*
 sun - set looms for hours up - on the scar - let ten - e - ments of day, un-
mp
 16 *mf*

20 *cresc.*
 rav - el - ing cur - tains, win - dow - panes a - blaze.
p cresc.
 20 *cresc.*

23 *mf* *rhapsodically*

The house is close, I say,

23 *mf* *rhapsodically*

27 *pp*

and move the table un - der - neath the arch - es of the

27 *molto dim.* *pp*

27 *molto dim.* *pp* *luminous*

31 *mp*

ma - ple tree. Not e - ven the cur - ious neigh - bors know if

31 *poco cresc.* *mp*

31 *poco cresc.* *mp*

3

35

I am host or stran - ger here, nor if this roof of leaf and air, the

p

3

3

3

p

35

3

3

3

p

39

lit - tle court - yard of the world, is home. _____

cantando

mp

3

3

3

a tempo

39

allargando

mp

43

calando

3

3

43

rit.

p

calando