

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a black strapless dress and high heels, stands in profile on a rocky, elevated terrain. She is looking out over a vast landscape at dusk. The sky is a mix of soft pinks, purples, and blues. In the distance, there are rolling hills and mountains, with some city lights visible in the valley below. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

REFLECTIONS **AT DUSK**

JENNIFER BELLOR

1. **CERULEAN TWILIGHT** (2018) 8:15
Ying Zhang, violin
Andrew Smith, cello
Emily Montoya Barnes, harp
Luc Brust, vibraphone and wind chimes
Gabriela Ordoñez Villalobos, marimba and wind chimes
Tim Jones, multi percussion
Geoff Neuman, double bass
2. **AMETHYST SUNSET** (2019) 8:51
Olga Shupyatskaya, piano
Futaba Niekawa, piano
Hannah Weaver and Kyle Peters, percussion
3. **INDIGO NOCTURNE** (2019) 5:56
Shawna Pennock, alto saxophone
Merrick Haji-Sheikh, electric vibraphone
Emily Montoya Barnes, harp
Gabriela Ordoñez Villalobos, multi percussion
Molly Redfield, double bass and electric bass
4. **HIGH RESOLUTION** (2019) 4:47
Clark High School Symphonic Strings
Chuck Cushinery, director
Tara Ogden-Skouson, harp
Merrick Haji-Sheikh, vibraphone
5. **SKYLARK LULLABY** (2014) 10:28
Eastman Saxophone Project
Chien-Kwan Lin, director
6. **REFLECTIONS AT DUSK** (2019) 4:15
James Whiting, vibraphone
Merrick Haji-Sheikh, electric vibraphone
Emily Montoya Barnes, harp
Gabriela Ordoñez Villalobos, marimba

— 42:33 —



CERULEAN TWILIGHT

Cerulean Twilight was recorded with the support of a Nevada Arts Council Jackpot Grant featuring musicians affiliated with University of Nevada, Las Vegas. It was written specifically for this album.

AMETHYST SUNSET

Amethyst Sunset was inspired by the photo (see background image) taken by Phil Joy of the Whitney Mesa Trail. The piece was commissioned by pianists Olga Shupyatskaya and Futaba Niekawa for premiere July 23, 2019 at the Eastman School of Music. The percussionists featured are Hannah Weaver and Kyle Peters.

INDIGO NOCTURNE

Indigo Nocturne is the intimate and lyrical version of the up tempo High Resolution. It was inspired by the sunsets in Vegas and was written to feature friend and colleague at UNLV, Shawna Pennock on the alto saxophone. It was written specifically for this album.

HIGH RESOLUTION

High Resolution is a reflection on how often times our dreams can provide us with a heightened sense of clarity, helping us work out ideas when we are awake. It is the up tempo strings, harp and percussion version of Indigo Nocturne, that was commissioned by the Clark High School Symphonic Strings under the direction of Chuck Cushinery for premiere at Carnegie Hall on their concert titled Wind Songs as a part of the DCINY concert series. In the review, it was described as being "dream-like and a worthy addition to the repertoire."

SKYLARK LULLABY

When I was writing Skylark Lullaby for the Eastman Saxophone Project, I imagined a scene at sunset filled with birds communicating, flying towards and away from each other before darkness sets in and it's time to fall asleep. The independent melodic lines for each of the instruments intertwine with each other, often times coming together to contribute to the harmonic and melodic ideas already set up among the other instruments playing, and at other moments, change direction to share a new idea that will eventually be woven into the meditative landscape.

Skylark Lullaby was written for the Eastman Saxophone Project under the direction of Chien-Kwan Lin, and premiered at the 2014 North American Saxophone Alliance Conference in March at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. It was featured at the 2015 Florida State University Seventeenth Biennial Festival of New Music, performed by the South Sound Saxophone Ensemble, and awarded the 2015 IAWM Judith Lang Zaimont prize. Skylark Lullaby was featured at the SCI 2019 National Conference/Robb Composers' Symposium held at the University of New Mexico, March 2019.

REFLECTIONS AT DUSK

Reflections at Dusk is a melodic and mystical piece featuring James Whiting on vibraphone with Merrick Haji-Sheik (electric vibraphone), Emily Montoya Barnes (harp), and Gabriela Ordoñez Villalobos (marimba). It is an updated version of an earlier work, and was written specifically for this album.



Photo by Mark Maryanovich

JENNIFER BELLOR is a versatile composer whose works have been presented by Washington National Opera at the Kennedy Center, American Composers Orchestra, Seattle Women's Jazz Orchestra (SWOJO), Clocks in Motion, Wuhan Philharmonic Chamber Series, Las Vegas Philharmonic, Lviv Philharmonic, UNLV Wind Orchestra, ShoutHouse, Florida State University Festival of New Music, Missouri State University Composition Festival, Indiana State University Contemporary Music Festival, Eastman New Jazz Ensemble, Eastman Saxophone Project, ensemble A/Tonal, Elevate Ensemble, and many others in the US and abroad. Bellor's music draws on a variety of influences, evidenced in her self-released debut album *Stay* (2016), which is a melting pot of different music styles largely based on poetry. *Stay* was featured on NewMusicBox's 2016 Staff picks, and was praised as having the ability to "maintain a highly individual identity without needing to take refuge in pre-post-genre musical silos."

Born and raised in Northern NY, Bellor earned a PhD in music composition at Eastman School of Music, a Master of Music degree in composition at Syracuse University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in music at Cornell University. Her primary composition teachers included David Liptak, Bob Morris, Andrew Waggoner, Sally Lamb-McCune, and Steven Stucky. She is on the music composition faculty at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and artistic director of the new music series Nexttet.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Mastering: Gil Kaupp

Producers: Jennifer Bellor and Dave Rivello (co-producer)

Executive Producer: Phil Joy

Cover design: Brooke Vreeland

Photography: Phil Joy

Tracks 1 (Fall 2018), 3 and 6 (June 2019), and 4 (May 2019) recorded and mixed by Ron George, UNLV Recording Studio.

Tracks 2 (July 2019) and 5 (December 2018) recorded and mixed by Rich Wattie.





SPECIAL THANKS:

To Dave Rivello, Michael Torke, and Phil Joy for feedback listening to mixes

To Phil Joy for support and inspiration

To my parents Sue and Ken Bellor and sister Kate Bellor for their endless support

To Nevada Arts Council for support of recording costs for Cerulean Twilight

The album cover was captured during the Mw 7.1 earthquake at 8:19pm, July 5, 2019 on the Whitney Mesa Trail located in Henderson, NV. The tremors resulted in a dusty haze that lingered for several moments.

Innova Director: Philip Blackburn

Operations Director: Chris Campbell

Publicist: Tim Igel

Innova is supported by an endowment from the McKnight Foundation.