





Special thanks to Timothy and Trina Phillips who gave the incentive for composing these works by performing some of them in the United States and Europe at various recitals and clarinet festivals, and made these pieces a rather personal favor. Matt Woulard, who made it possible for the performers to read my hand written manuscript. The artists, Michael (clarinetist) and Yoko (pianist), whose devotion, skill, and translation (visual to aural) created a wonderful interpretation of style and musicality. Last but not least the team at PARMA Recordings for the high-level of production of this album. – Michael Norsworthy

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The quality that comes through most in Carl Vollrath's music is his humanity. These pieces tell the story of a friendship between Vollrath and the Phillips family and in the true fashion of storytelling, each piece is unique and relates to its character. I feel privileged to have a glimpse of this wonderful friendship and grateful that I am able to play a small part in translating it to the world. Humanity is Carl Vollrath's single greatest quality and I believe this music embodies that to the fullest extent. Thank you, Carl, for your music, friendship, and humanity.

- Michael Norsworthy

TIM AND TRINA'S BALL consists of four short pieces depicting an earlier time sketch when we met at my house and performed at a Christmas party for some guests. One of the numbers pokes fun at their lively little dog Kaspar who participates in an annual dog parade in Montgomery.

THE ODD PIECES consist of 8 movements. Each piece is about an imaginary fairy-like picture of a young mind. "Gaby with the Green Eyes" is about supposedly one the most beautiful woman at the time of Debussy's life who decides to live with him and move into his cold water flat in Paris. After ten years her beauty began to fade. Debussy was still teaching piano lessons to children with drippy noses and wasn't earning enough to make a decent living. Gaby told him she must marry a rich man who will provide for her in her older years. Soon after, Debussy becomes recognized as a leading

French composer who then moves into a respectable house and marries, where as Gaby's rich husband passed away losing all his fortune in railroad bonds. She ends her life cleaning floors at night.

TRINA'S PATH was written for Trina Phillips to show off her technical and musical abilities. The music is one big crescendo.

ONCE A BYGONE TIME attempts to capture the essence of a small rural town like Troy AL.

LINGERING LONGINGS is about remembering past times.

EVAN'S HAVEN was composed at the request of Tim Phillips who wanted a companion piece to the "Little Violet" recording in VOLUME 1 when his new born son was born.

- Carl Vollrath



CARL VOLLRATH

Born in New York City to German parents, Carl Vollrath attended Newton High School. He received a B.A. from Stetson University, a M.A. from Columbia University, and the ED.D from Florida State University. Vollrath studied composition with Ernst von Dohnanyi, Carlisle Floyd, and John Boda. He served with the West Point Military Band at West Point NY from 1953 to 1956 and was a music consultant in Miami FL from 1956 to 1958. He joined the Troy University (AL) faculty in 1965.

Major works include 6 symphonies for band, an opera – *The Quest* – and a large collection of chamber music, all published by Tap Music (tapmusic@tapmusic.com). MMC Recordings (mmcrecordings.com) has released 3 albums of Vollrath's works, including a 2-disc album of clarinet works recorded by Richard Stoltzman entitled *Jack's Fat Cat* (2008).

YOKO HAGINO



Yoko Hagino is an accomplished soloist and chamber pianist. She is a pianist who is confident and energetic, as noted by the Boston Globe - Hagino has received a number of prizes, including from the All-Japan Mozart Competition and Steinway Music Society Piano Competition. Hagino received her bachelor's and her master's degrees with honors from Tokyo National University. She earned an Artist Diploma from the Longy School of Music, where she studied with Victor Rosenbaum and won the school's concerto competition. She also completed a Performance Diploma at the Boston Conservatory, where she was a student of Michael Lewin and received the Churchill Scholarship. She has appeared in contemporary music scenes frequently, performing with Area III, White Rabbit, ECCE, and Sound Icon.

MICHAEL NORSWORTHY



Michael Norsworthy's virtuosity and unique voice on the clarinet have made him a sought after soloist and chamber music collaborator and garnered praise from critics and audiences around the globe. The Boston Globe has called his performances "virtuosic" and "astonishing," while the New Music Connoisseur hailed his performance "utterly stunning... gleefully seizing [the music's] wild abandon and exuberantly tearing into its breathtaking difficulties." His performances have taken him to distinguished concert venues

including Vienna's Musikverein, Moscow's Tchaikovsky Philharmonie Hall, New York City's Carnegie Hall, Boston's Jordan and Symphony halls, St. Louis' Sheldon Concert Hall, and the Aspen Music Festival.

Norsworthy is one of the most celebrated champions of modern repertoire. To date, he has given over 125 world premieres with leading contemporary music groups. He has collaborated with a veritable who's who of composers from around the globe including Pierre Boulez, Harrison Birtwistle, Elliott Carter, Chris Dench, and Brian Ferneyhough, among many others. Recent seasons have included world premieres of works written for him by Michael Finnissy, Hans Tutschku, and Pozzi Escot, domestic and international recital tours with pianists Marilyn Nonken and Tyson Deaton, concerto performances with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project and Manhattan Sinfonietta, and concerts with a variety of U.S.-based organizations. As a recitalist, he regularly performs with pianists Yoko Hagino, Michael Finnissy, and David Gompper.

As a soloist he has performed an extensive repertoire of concerti, ranging from Mozart to Ferneyhough, with the Manhattan Sinfonietta, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, Kalistos Chamber Orchestra, Callithumpian Consort, Pottstown Symphony, Southern Illinois Symphony, and Symphony Pro Musica. As an orchestral musician he has performed with leading groups including the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony, Boston Philharmonic, and Boston Ballet, and is currently principal clarinet with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project.

Norsworthy is interested in breaking down barriers that exist between classical, popular, and jazz music as well as collaborating with artists working in other media. He has shared the stage with such popular and jazz icons as Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Savion Glover, and Béla Fleck.

His current discography numbers over 15 releases and can be found on the Albany, Mode, Gasparo, Canteloupe, BMOP/sound, ECM, Nonesuch, Cirrus Music, Cauchemar labels, and Navona Records. Currently, Norsworthy is Professor of Clarinet and Woodwind Admissions Coordinator at Boston Conservatory. He is constantly in demand at schools of music and has presented masterclasses and clinics across the United States and abroad. He has served as artist-in-residence at Harvard University with the Harvard Group for New Music and was on the artist faculty at Columbia University.

Norsworthy holds advanced degrees from New England Conservatory and Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, and has attended Michigan State University. His teachers include Elsa Ludewig-Verdehr, Eric Mandat, Kalmen Opperman, and Richard Stoltzman. Norsworthy is a Selmer Paris Artist and Artistic Advisor as well as an artist/clinician for Rico Reeds. He currently resides in Boston.

MICHAEL NORSWORTHY CLARINET YOKO HAGINO PIANO TIM AND TRINA'S BALL II. WEDDING WALTZ2:51 III. KASPAR ON PARADE2:13 IV. THANKSGIVEN5:57 II. WICKED WITCHES HAVING FUN2:04 III. MIDNIGHT WALTZ2:11 IV. CAT AND MOUSE BALL2:31 V. GABY WITH THE GREEN EYES 4:53 VII. GOODNIGHT WALTZ 2:54 TRINA'S PATH 9:29 ONCE A BYGONE TIME8:10 LINGERING LONGINGS4:16



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