

TOM BODUCH MY MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY



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At the age of 6, I began to study the Violin. While I enjoyed playing it, I gradually learned that I most enjoyed composing and arranging music. Consequently, over time, I, I shifted to the piano as my primary instrument. When I decided to pursue a career in Medicine, I had to put music aside for over 40 years.

In 2002 I finally had time to devote to the piano and began composing in 2011. The music on this album is a combination of music I began over 40 years ago, along with music inspired by people, places and events along my life's journey. This album, therefore, is my autobiography through music.

1. TRANQUILITY BASE

When I started school in the late 1950's, the Russians had just launched SPUTNIK and started the space race that would dominate the 1960's. President Eisenhower urged schools to teach more science to train future generations of rocket scientists. I became interested in the space program and science which led to my medical career. The crowning achievement of the space race occurred on July 20, 2011--Apollo 11's moon landing. I was inspired to write this song on July 20, 2013 as I watched the moon rise.

2. WALTZ IN A MINOR

This song first took form in 4/4 time for a Music Theory and Harmony Class I took as a High School Senior. At the time, we were studying 4 part harmony and counterpoint. In 2011, while attending a DAVID LANZ retreat, we worked on the theme--David suggested modifying it to 3/4 time. It then took on a Waltz-like character.

3. and 4. SEARCHING/FINDING

SEARCHING represents times in our lives when we find ourselves searching for something or someone--meaning, purpose direction etc. FINDING represents the culmination of the search. SEARCHING's haunting theme was inspired by the opening music of the short lived NEW PERRY MASON TV show which aired in 1973-1974.

Judy Willis has worked for me as my receptionist since 2005. She also sings and writes poetry; she has written two poems to accompany each of these songs.

SEARCHING by Judy M. Willis

Softly the rain falls against the window pane
in the quietness of the night;
She searches the faces in the picture frames
realizing the aloneness of her plight.

Silently they look back at her
her questions floating aimlessly in the air;
Where did all the years go?
she blinked--and they weren't there

She gazes out the window
As her thoughts have been lost in time;
It's not raindrops on the window pane
It's tear drops in her mind.

FINDING
by Judy M. Willis

I walked eagerly through the sand
Finding shells along the way;
Some were perfect in their form
Some broken on the ground.

As I walked and thought of life
Letting the sound of the ocean clear my mind;
I discovered if I search for truth
So many things I will find.

No matter how the tides may churn
Or the currents try to pull me down;
I'm finding through the storms of life
Peace in God can truly be found.

5. MAGIC JOURNEYS

I visited WALT DISNEY WORLD in October 1981 when EPCOT center opened. This song was inspired by the background music of the 3-D movie of the same name which was shown at EPCOT's JOURNEY INTO IMAGINATION attraction. The music was written by the Sherman Brothers and is loosely based on the song YESTERDAY ONCE MORE.

6. FRATERNAL GREETINGS MY BROTHER

In 1991, I became a Freemason by joining UNION LODGE #38 in Kingston. In 2010, I was privileged to serve as Tennessee's 171st Grand Master. This music represents the spirit of brotherhood Masons feel when meeting and/or greeting a fellow brother. Since 2014, an excerpt of this music is played at the annual installation of the new Tennessee Grand Master.

7. WATTS BAR LAKE STORM

From 1989 to 1999, my office was located across the street from Watts Bar Lake. Union Lodge #38 also has a great view of the lake. This song was inspired by watching storms over the lake from both vantage points.

8. HIGHLAND FESTIVAL

From an early age, I have been interested in Scotland and things Scottish (I play the bagpipes some). I met my wife Betty (who is of Scottish descent) in 1991--we married in 1996. In 1996, I received my first Masonic honor by being made a member of the ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND. This music captures the spirit of Scotsmen and women celebrating a HIGHLAND FESTIVAL and celebrates the 700th Anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn (July 4, 1314 NS).

9. THE RESTLESS SPIRITS OF SAVANNAH

In recent years, my family and I have taken a beach vacation on Tybee Island GA--just outside Savannah. In visiting the area, I learned that Savannah is the most haunted city in America. I was inspired to write this song after taking several haunted tours of Savannah. This music originated in 1970 from a music class assignment to develop a melody using all 3 minor scales.

10. STEINWAY HALL

This song was inspired by a May 2013 trip to New York's Steinway Hall. You can feel Rachmaninoff's presence in this historic building. Displayed on its walls are portraits of many famous Steinway artists. The newest portrait is of THE Piano Man--Billy Joel. He is the only non-classical artist so honored in Steinway Hall. The beginning and end of this song refers to Rachmaninoff's Prelude in C Sharp Minor and the 4 Piano Concertos--the middle section uses the same chord progression as the song PIANO MAN.

11. THE GIFT



For my 60th Birthday, the ladies that work in my office gave me a wall hanging shaped like a music staff with notes. This song is based on the notes depicted on THE GIFT.

12. LOVE HYMN (words and music by N. E. Willis)

Judy Willis has worked as my receptionist since 2005. She Married Nic "Ernie" Willis on December 20, 2013. Ernie wrote this song for her--I arranged a solo piano version which was used as their wedding processional. This track is instrumental only--below are the song lyrics:

Come and lay, here beside me.
Feel the heart, that beats for you.
Lay your head, upon my shoulder.
We'll pray time, will just stand still.

When the sun, breaks the morning.
We will run, through clover fields.
Ride the breeze, like eagles soaring
And show the world, our love is real.

Many Kings, will never find it.
Many Queens, may never know.
Oh, the peace, and the excitement,
From a love, that's never old.

Summer days, pass too quickly.
Falling leaves, bring winter's snow.
But my love, will be your blanket,
And keep you warm, when the cold winds blow.

But my love, will be your blanket,
And keep you warm, when the cold winds blow.

13. BLESS THIS UNION

I wrote this for the Sand Ceremony of Judy and Ernie Willis' wedding--December 20, 2013.

14. PEACE ON EARTH

This is based on SMILING by Harry Gregson-Williams and is used as background music on the OMEGA watch commercial. I have expanded and developed the simple but elegant theme. I originally intended for this to be a Christmas song, but its message is appropriate all year.

This CD was recorded at my home using a TASCAM DP-02 recorder and 2 Sterling Audio ST44 condenser microphones. The piano is my Steinway and Sons Model B #367781, tuned by Oscar Kirkland.

I would like to thank David Lanz, Mama San, Joseph Akins, Jodi Brown, Stasia Filipiak, Fred Kerr, Cathy Oakes, Dr. Vincent O'Keefe, Marilyn Shields Wiltsie and Ted Wiltsie for their inspiration and support; Judy Willis for her poems and Ernie Willis for his music. A special thanks to Mary Jane and Big Ed Canis for being a test audience. I especially thank Betty for her continued love, encouragement and support.

All music composed and performed by Thomas Boduch except for LOVE HYMN (Track 12). LOVE HYMN composed by N. E. Willis--Track 12 is a solo piano arrangement by T. Boduch. All songs (except LOVE HYMN) Copyright 2014 by Thomas Boduch. For more information and new music, please visit www.tbconcerts.org or email tbconcerts@att.net.