

- 1. If I Cannot Fly** (3:22) © 1975 *Cynthia R. Crossen* • Vocal: Maia • Guitar: john  
Bass: Paul • Drums: Donovan
- 2. Утушка Луговая** "*Utushka Lugovaya*" *Meadow Duckling* (2:25) *Russian folk song*  
Vocal, Guitar: Jamuna • Bass: Paul
- 3. Lead Me To Calvary** (2:39) *Jennie Hussey 1921* • Vocals: Omega Choir
- 4. Keep This Fire** (4:17) © 2002 *dandelion john* • Vocal, Guitar, Harmonica: john  
Bass: Paul • Drums: Donovan
- 5. Gracias A La Vida** (4:37) *Violetta Parra / P. N. de Chile* • Vocal, Guitar: Claudia
- 6. Sweet Gratitude** (3:21) © 1980 *Cynthia R. Crossen* • Vocal: Cynthia • Rhythm &  
Lead Guitar: john • Bass: Paul • Drums: Kevin • Harmony Vocals: Lea, Nina
- 7. Землянка** "*Zemlyanka*" (1:47) *WWII Russian folk song* • Vocal, Guitar: Jamuna  
Guitar, Bass: Paul
- 8. Disillusion Oneself** (5:47) © 2001 *Maia Derewicz* • Vocal, Guitar: Maia • Rhythm &  
Lead Guitar: john • Bass: Paul • Drums: Donovan
- 9. Muscadine** (2:28) © 2002 *Sarah Haggerty* • Vocal: Sarah • Guitar: Cynthia  
Drums: Jill • Lead Guitar: john
- 10. The Trail** (3:13) © 2000 *dandelion john* • Vocal, Guitar: john • Bass: Paul
- 11. Ямщик** "*Yamsheek*" *Carriage Driver* (3:31) *19th century Russian folk song*  
Vocal, Guitar: Jamuna • Lead Guitar: john • Bass: Paul • Drums: Donovan
- 12. Winter Trees** (2:40) © 1999 *Jasmine Girard* • Vocal, Guitar: Jasmine • Bass: Paul
- 13. Hidden Word** (4:31) *Lyrics from Bahá'í sacred writings, music Maia* © 2002 *Maia Derewicz* • Vocal, Guitar: Maia • Rhythm & Lead Guitar: john • Bass: Paul  
Drums: Donovan
- 14. Agnus Dei** (3:39) © 2001 *Claudia Lopez* • Vocal: Claudia
- 15. Old Ship Of Zion** (2:46) *Traditional Gospel* • Vocals: One Voice
- 16. November Winds** (3:52) © 2001 *dandelion john* • Vocal, Guitar: john • Bass: Paul

- 17. Honeysuckle Night** (3:25) © 1980 *Cynthia R. Crossen* • Vocals, Guitars: Cynthia,  
Jesse • Bass: Paul
- 18. Ночь Светла** "*Noch' Svetla*" *Night Is Light* (2:24) *Russian romance (romantic song)* • Vocal, Guitar: Jamuna
- 19. Painter** (3:52) *Lyrics Maia and Mark, music Maia* © 2003 *Maia Derewicz*  
Vocal, Guitar: Maia • Lead Guitar: john • Electric Guitar: Mark • Bass: Paul
- 20. La Lavandera** (3:11) *Violetta Parra / P. N. de Chile* • Vocal, Guitar: Claudia
- 21. A Synthetic Lullaby** (5:30) © 2000 *Ari Picker* • Vocal, Guitar, Synthesizer, Saw: Ari

**The musicians are: Alston Chapel Omega Choir (Johnny Price, Director), Ari Picker, Claudia Lopez Bascuñan, Cynthia Rylander Crossen, dandelion john, Donovan Zimmerman, Jamuna (Джемма Халид "Djemma Khalid"), Jasmine Girard, Jesse Crossen, Jill Baldwin, Kevin Brock, Lea Clayton, Maia Derewicz, Mark Derewicz, Nina Elshiekh, One Voice (Philathia Bolton, Lucinda Bolton, Allyson Alston, Danelle Laws), Paul Ford, and Sarah Haggerty.**

Recorded, mixed, and produced by Ken Crossen, Paul Ford, and dandelion john, except Agnus Dei produced by Claudia Lopez, A Synthetic Lullaby produced by Ari Picker, and Old Ship Of Zion produced by Johnny Price. CD package design and photography by Ken Crossen, except photograph of Ken Crossen by Alix Pentecost-Farren.

This CD would have been so much poorer in so many important ways without Paul Ford's musicianship and his mastery of the art of music production. Thank you, Paul. It's not really enough, but thank you anyway. Thank you also to dandelion john, whose guitar and arrangements have graced many of these songs with magic. As always, my deep gratitude to these singer/songwriters; who despite suffering through my learning to record, mix and master; still delivered transcendent music to the microphone. I still haven't gotten over my astonishment at your poetry and your melodies. This applies especially to Cynthia, who has also suffered through my learning to be a better human being.

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#### Community Music Project

This CD is a gift to the community from which this music flows. It is uniquely ours in a way that the commercial music that floods our culture can never match. We are not selling these CDs, we are giving them away. Our listening community has generously contributed most of the pressing costs of these CDs; we deeply appreciate your encouragement and support. We are currently recording or planning six more CDs. If you would like to participate in these projects or make a donation in support of these projects, please contact us at the address below. Checks should be made out to "Community Music Project / Ken Crossen". Contact: Ken Crossen, 1116 Marshall Road, Pittsboro NC 27312. Please email us at crossen@mindspring.com to get on our list of concert and CD announcements. For more information, or to download any of our CDs as MP3s and printable artwork, go to [www.CommunityMusicProject.org](http://www.CommunityMusicProject.org) on the internet.

So far, the Community Music Project has published four CDs, *Butterfly on the Wind* (2000), *Come Shining Through* (2001), *Feel This Love* (2002), and *Dreams of Flying* (2003). The Project has also assisted in the production of two other CDs, *Goodbye Taganka* (Jamuna, 2000) and *I Send A Voice* (Mark Smith & Friends, 2002).

The Community Music Project started with a geriatric tape recorder and a consumer-grade microphone, graduated to minidisc, and then to a CD-R recorder. We are currently recording in 16-track digital with conventional studio microphones. As I was considering upgrading to more professional equipment, an angel sent a big check to the project that essentially covered the new equipment. This CD was recorded with both the CD-R and the 16-track system. We do not have a studio. Instead, we use our small living room, and quiet spaces generously provided by supporters of the project. Thank you Sarbaga Falk for the use of the Sri Chinmoy Meditation Center in Carrboro, Carol Verner for the use of her basement, and the McGinnis family for hosting Jamuna and providing rehearsal space.

#### Song Notes

**Zemlyanka:** Recording Russian singer Jamuna has been an unexpected adventure in cultural differences. We started talking about iconic songs, songs that represent powerful experiences in a culture, and the topic of war songs came up. One such song, *Zemlyanka*, written in 1941 during the battle for Moscow, goes something like: "...Somewhere an accordion is singing about you, about your smile, about your eyes, and about you the bushes whisper to me...It's so

far over snow-bound steppes to you, but to reach death is just four steps." In contrast, during this same period Americans were listening to *The Boogie Woogie Bugler Boy of Company B*.

A young girl's father kisses her goodbye, promising to be back, and within days is killed at the front. Her mother, and all of her brothers and sisters are killed during the battle for Moscow. This is profoundly different from the American experience of war, but common in Russia.

**Zemlyanka, Yamsheek:** We are attempting to reinterpret these beautiful Russian songs to be more interesting and accessible to Americans, as well as fresh and surprising to Russians, while remaining sensitive to the songs' meanings. *Yamsheek* is Russian blues; the words go something like "carriage driver, drive slow, nobody waits for me...". The original crossover concept was a horse-drawn carriage taking a coffin to the graveyard through the streets of New Orleans. This recording of *Yamsheek* was made with a single stereo microphone during a rehearsal session.

**Agnus Dei:** This song expresses Claudia's memories of childhood in Catholic Chile. Powerful, evocative, and mystical, it sings to that part of us which stands in awe of a star-filled sky.

**Old Ship Of Zion:** Four young women, collectively One Voice, associated with the Omega Choir, laid down this gospel gem in a studio session. Johnny Price gave us this track to publish when we were recording the Omega Choir. The Omega Choir, featuring deep solo talent and Johnny's imaginative direction, is one of the finest choirs I have ever heard.

**A Synthetic Lullaby:** Ari has another gig as singer/songwriter with a band that has a record contract, *The Never* (formerly the *b-sides*). *The Never* plays really good rock 'n roll in the same way that Frank Zappa was good, but Ari's sweet voice and quirky lyrics also deserve solo treatment.

**Disillusion Oneself, Hidden Word, Painter:** These could be our modern spirituals, antidotes for our self-absorbed culture and a heart-healing philosophy from the Bahá'í faith.

**If I Cannot Fly, Sweet Gratitude, Honeysuckle Night:** Among the many gifts Cynthia has brought to my life is her music, but perhaps her most important gift has been teaching me to listen to women's voices, in every sense of voice. Here is the voice of the woman that taught me to listen to women, and to venture beyond my own limited perception of reality. *Honeysuckle Night* features the collaboration of our son Jesse, who knew, at age sixteen, that his mother's music was the genuine article.