

HOMEGROWN

REBECCA CASSIDY

ALEX RAINERI



ART SONG BY AUSTRALIAN WOMEN

- 1 Hope in Spring * 1:59
music and text by Dulcie Holland
- 2 River Mother, River Child (from 'River Songs') 2:30
music by Betty Beath | text by Jena Woodhouse
- 3 By Train (from 'Wakeford Songs') * 4:30
music by Melody Eötvös | text by Muriel Wakeford
- 4 Come Sleep 1:56
music by Peggy Glanville-Hicks | text by John Fletcher
- 5 Distant Lullaby (from 'Art and Life') 2:29
music and text by Linda Kouvaras
- 6 Lullaby * 4:25
music and text by Lisa Cheney
- 7 Gratitude and Grief * 7:22
music by Lisa Cheney | text by Jessica Urlichs
- 8 Brownhill Creek in Spring 5:55
music by Miriam Hyde
- 9 Dream Land 4:16
music by Miriam Hyde | text by Christina Rossetti
- 10 Son of Mine * 5:03
music by Mary Mageau | Text by Oodgeroo Noonuccal
- 11 Crepe Myrtle Sky * 4:08
music and text by Deborah Cheetham Fraillon

* World Premiere Recording

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REBECCA CASSIDY | SOPRANO
ALEX RAINERI | PIANO

Themes of nature, motherhood and deep spiritual connection to place pervade this program of music exclusively composed by Australian women.

Deborah Cheetham Fraillon's *Crepe Myrtle Sky* and Lisa Cheney's *Gratitude and Grief* are Brisbane Music Festival commissioned works, courtesy of generous support from Creative Australia.

Homegrown is supported by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its arts funding and advisory body.



Recorded at Move Records
10 Glen Drive, Eaglemont, Victoria
16/8/24 (tracks 2, 4, 6, 11)
5/8/25 (tracks 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10)

Recording Engineer & Editing | Vaughan McAlley

Mastering | Martin Wright

Piano Technician | Ben Briggs

Album Cover Photography | Courtenay Cleary

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GRATITUDE AND GRIEF

Note by Lisa Cheney

“I’m still learning how to breathe under this waterfall of gratitude and grief.” Jessica Urlichs (poet)

Gratitude and Grief grew from a commission by Alex Raineri to accompany one of my earliest works, *Lullaby* (2006) for voice and piano. When *Lullaby* was written, I was in my late teens, trying to glimpse what motherhood might feel like from the inside. Now I have two little girls under five, and the truth is more vivid than I imagined: motherhood is the most intense fusion of unconditional love, beauty, and joy, tempered by the worry that every version of them might not fit “in my heart’s locket”. This sentiment, the universal ache and wonder of motherhood, finds its echo in Jessica Urlichs’ untitled poem, which speaks to the depth of feeling we share. The music paints a picture of immense, deliciously complex, and utterly simple love, striving to capture the richness of contemporary motherhood.