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Cedarhouse Sound Sessions recorded by Gerry Putnam

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Our heart-filled gratitude to the composers, known and unknown,
and to the Spirit that is the source of inspiration.

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Libana

Susan Robbins, Founder and Artistic Director

Lisa Bosley	Vocals, clarinet, djembe
Allison Coleman	Vocals, djun djun
Marytha Paffrath	Vocals, bells, djembe, frame drum, kalimba, shekere, soprano recorder
Susan Robbins	Vocals, accordion, djun djun, hammered dulcimer, ipu, piano, shekere
Linda Ugelow	Vocals, shekere
Cheryl Weber	Vocals, agogo bell



Libana
Turning

With reverence we dedicate this music to the deep peace of our radiant Earth and Her eternal turning toward wisdom and wholeness.

1. I Arise Facing East © Deborah Langstaff 2:21
(poetry ~ Mary Austin, 1868-1934)
2. Thugamar Fein an Samradh Linn Ireland 3:29
Beltaine is the ancient Celtic Quarter Day half way between the Spring Equinox and the Summer Solstice, now celebrated as May Day. Traditionally, groups of young women processed from house to house on Beltaine singing this song.
We have brought the summer in, yellow summer with daisies bright; the holly, hazel, and elder trees and the mountain ash that shades the creek, we have brought the summer in.
3. Hotaru Koi Japan 1:11
Come, firefly, come! Over there the water is nasty; over here the water is sweet!
4. Con el Viento Renaissance Spain 2:36
I fell asleep in the sand, with the breeze blowing against the shores of the sea. The waves moved with an infinite contentment, and as they rose with the wind, it seemed they wanted to reach the highest stars. As I sat contemplating the waves, I fell asleep in the sandy dunes.
5. Jubilate Gaia Praetorius c. 1600 (words adapted by Marytha Paffrath) 1:39
Rejoice in the spirit of the Earth!
6. E Pele E Pele/ E Pele I Hawai'i Hawai'i 3:46
Two hula kahiko (ancient traditional dances) honoring Pele, the Hawaiian goddess of fire and the volcano. Pele is said to reside in the craters of Mt. Kilauea, one of the most active volcanoes in the world.
*Listen! Here comes Pele! In the distance you can hear her hissing.
The sparks are flying as she bursts forth, moving upward, moving downward;
creeping closer and closer, the wall of lava moves slowly, yet inexorably, forward.*

The second hula honors the sacred cliffs on one of the islands. As the singer stands at the top of the cliff, looking down at the ocean crashing incessantly against it, she asks,
*"Where is it that we find tranquility? Perhaps it is in the pathway of deep longing."
Marytha Paffrath, soloist*

7. Planino Peren Pirin, Bulgaria 2:40
In the summer of 2008, Libana performed at an International Festival in Bulgaria, then traveled throughout the countryside learning songs from groups of older women singers (babi's) in remote mountain villages. We spent one idyllic afternoon at the base of Pirin mountain. Deeply moved by the mountain's powerful presence, history, and spirit, we were inspired to sing this song to her highest peaks.
Oh Pirin Mountain, you are so beautiful. In the summer, in the winter, you are so beautiful.
8. Babe Thandaza/Sin Djen South Africa 3:04
Sung by Xhosa women at the beginning of communal gatherings to invoke their matriarchal ancestral spirits.
The mothers and grandmothers from way back used to pray! Things are the way they are because of prayer.
9. Afunga Alafia Liberia 4:41
*From the North, South, East, and West we welcome you.
We come in peace, our hands are open, we bear no weapons.*
10. Kalimba Invocation © Marytha Paffrath 3:47
Marytha Paffrath, soloist and kalimba
11. Spinning Song The Hebrides, Scotland 5:02
*I gave you love and devotion, such as a sister never gave her brother, such as a mother never gave her child. You are the wheel and I the thread; we are woven together in pure destiny.
Susan Robbins, soloist and hammered dulcimer*

12. Midnight Meditation © Susan Robbins 4:49
Susan Robbins, piano improvisation
13. Ma Navu Israel (music ~ Yossi Spivak, text ~ Isaiah 52:7) 3:55
How pleasant on the mountains are the feet of the messenger of good tidings, proclaiming peace.
14. Salaam Aleikhum Source Unknown 3:41
A greeting and blessing for peace in Arabic, Hebrew, and English.
15. Sim Shalom © Linda Hirschhorn 2:46
Grant us peace, goodness, and blessing.
16. Da Pacem Melchior Franck, 16th Century Germany 3:13
Grant us peace in our time, O Creator.
17. Out Beyond © Joanne Hammil 2:47
(Poetry ~ Jelaluddin Rumi, Translation ~ Coleman Barks)
Out beyond ideas of right doing and wrong doing, there is a field. I'll meet you there.

Words/music to Babe Thandaza are available in Libana's songbook Night Passage (listed as Oh Mama Bakudala)
Words/music to Hotaru Koi and Con el Viento are available in Libana's songbook Fire Within

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