

KOREAN ART SONG

Competition for Young Singers

SATURDAY
AUGUST 16, 2025
3 PM

Seully Hall
Boston Conservatory at Berklee
8 Fenway, Boston, MA

Organized by Korean Cultural Society of Boston (KCSB)
Supported by Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Boston



KOREAN CULTURAL SOCIETY OF BOSTON

Korean Cultural Society of Boston (KCSB) was founded in 2012 in order to introduce and promote Korean arts and cultural forms to a broad spectrum of New England audiences, to promote and support professional Korean-American literary, visual, and musical artists, and to enhance education of Korean culture and arts.

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Welcome Message



The Korean Cultural Society of Boston is proud to inaugurate the Korean Art Song Competition for non-Korean speaking young singers. Almost two years ago, the Competition Committee started planning the Competition as a way of promoting Korean Art Song to American singers and even envisioning it as part of a vocal genre in college curricula.

Now as the Committee's passion comes to fruition, I sincerely applaud their tireless endeavors. Besides, a competition is not possible without contestants, and I appreciate the almost twenty applicants who took the challenge of not only researching Korean vocal tradition but also learning the intricacies of the Korean language.

So, we are here this afternoon with ten accomplished finalists, and I want the audience to enjoy every bit of their performances! This is a concert, after all.

Let me close with my gratitude to judges from both the preliminary and the final rounds, and also to the Society's staff and volunteers. We are also grateful for the financial support from the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Boston and the Eastern Bank. All the enthusiastic support of the Boston Conservatory at Berklee are appreciated, as well.

We hope the Competition continues in the future with the involvement of more singers, and that this afternoon places a cornerstone upon which to build.

Byung Kim
KCSB, Program Director

Congratulatory Remark



I'm truly excited to extend a warm welcome and heartfelt congratulations to all the participants, judges, and guests at the first *Korean Art Song Competition for Young Singers*. It's especially meaningful that this event is taking place right here in Boston, a city with such a rich cultural history and vibrant arts scene.

With the global rise of K-Pop and K-Drama, which sparked renewed interests in Korean music worldwide, this competition takes on even greater significance. Not only does it provide a platform for young non-native Korean singers to explore the emotional depth of Korean art songs, but also highlights the growing impact of Korean culture around the world. And as we celebrate the 80th anniversary of Korea's Independence Day yesterday, this competition serves as a powerful reminder of the resilience and beauty of Korean culture.

On a personal note, "*In Front of the Autumn Post Office*" is one of my favorite Korean art songs, and I'm truly excited to hear how each of our talented performers brings their own unique style and emotion to these beautiful pieces.

A big thank you to the Korean Cultural Society of Boston and distinguished sponsors for making this event possible, and I'm proud that the Consulate could be a part of it. Best of luck to all the performers and I wish that their voices soar and their art inspire everyone at the hall.

Jae-hui Kim
Korean Consul General

Korean Art Song Competition for Young Singers

Saturday, August 16, 2025 · 3 PM
Seully Hall, Boston Conservatory at Berklee

Greetings

Performance

1. **Xingchi Dong**, *baritone*
2. **Anna Low**, *soprano*
3. **Zhe Nancy Xiong**, *mezzo-soprano*
4. **Nathan Lê**, *tenor*
5. **Samuel Yoon**, *baritone*
6. **Amanda Densmoor**, *soprano*
7. **Nan Sun**, *mezzo-soprano*
8. **Jeysla Rosario Santos**, *soprano*
9. **Jack Morin**, *baritone*
10. **Samantha Martin**, *soprano*

Eun Kyung Lee, *piano*

Each performer will present two songs consecutively: one required selection based on their vocal category, and the other of their own choosing.

Intermission (20 minutes)

Award Ceremony

Reception

2025 KCSB Korean Art Song Competition Finalists

(In the order of appearances.)



Xingchi Dong, *baritone*

Age: 23

Nationality: China

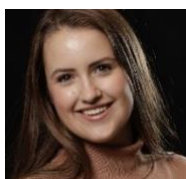
Current Residence: Boston, MA

Native Language: Chinese

Bimok (비목, 1969) — Chang Ihl Nam

A Thousand Winds (내 영혼 바람 되어, 2008) — Kim Hyo Geun

Xingchi Dong, a lyric baritone from China, is currently pursuing his Master of Music in Vocal Performance at New England Conservatory (NEC) and studies with Metropolitan Opera mezzo-soprano Maryann McCormick. As a performer at NEC, he has participated in numerous Liederabend concerts and opera productions, including roles in L'incoronazione di Poppea, La Bohème and Le Nozze di Figaro. Prior to his graduate studies, Xingchi earned his Bachelor's degree from Wuhan Conservatory of Music in China, where he studied with renowned baritone Zhengzhong Zhou and tenor Yongxi Chen. He was selected into the top talent training program of Wuhan Conservatory of Music.



Anna Low, *soprano*

Age: 25

Nationality: USA, Canada

Current Residence: Tallahassee, FL

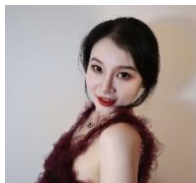
Native Language: English

Will You Draw Near (님이 오시는지, 1966) — Kim Gyu Hwan

Loom Song (베를 노래, 2009) — Lee Won Ju

Soprano Anna Low is a master's student studying vocal performance at Florida State University. She received her bachelor degree in vocal performance at Brigham Young University where she received the Singer of the Year award in 2023. As a soloist and as a member of the choir BYU Singers, Anna performed in Ireland, the Baltic states, Spain, Guadeloupe, Italy, Canada, and the United States. This year, Anna received an Encouragement award at the South Carolina district of the Metropolitan

Opera Laffont Competition. In previous years she was a semifinalist in the AIMS Meistersinger Competition, and placed second in the University division of the Classical Singer Competition. Past roles include Nannetta in Verdi's Falstaff, Valencienne in Lehar's The Merry Widow, and Susan in Lennox Berkeley's A Dinner Engagement. This summer she will play the role of Countess Almavira in Mozart's Le Nozze di Figaro with Musica Proibita Management in Bergamo, Italy.



Zhe Nancy Xiong, mezzo-soprano

Age: 28

Nationality: United States

Current Residence: New York, NY

Native Language: Chinese/ English

Bimok (비목, 1969) — Chang Ihl Nam

Leaning on the Time (시간에 기대어, 2016) — Choi Jin

Zhe Nancy Xiong is an engaging Mezzo-Soprano from Hunan, China. She got her bachelor degree from China conservatory of Music, and Master degree from Manhattan school of Music. Now, she is studying her Artist diploma in Aaron Copland school of music – Queens College with Professor Sherry Overholt. Previous credits include: Damigella 3/Dama Disincantata (La liberazione di Ruggiero dall'isola d'alcinai), Forester's wife/Owl (The Cunning Little Vixen) with Manhattan school of music. Prince Charmant (Cendrillon), Carmen (Habanera scene) with Utah Operafest. Madame Flora (The Medium) with Queens Summer Vocal Institute, Missus Herring (Albert Herring), Mozart Requiem soloist, Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass soloist with Aaron Copland school of music.



Nathan Lê, tenor

Age: 24

Nationality: USA

Current Residence: Madison, WI

Native Language: English

Will You Draw Near (님이 오시는지, 1966) — Kim Gyu Hwan

Like the Wind that Met with Lotus (연꽃 만나고 가는 바람같이, 2012)

— Kim Joo Won

Vietnamese American tenor Nathan Le hails from Kansas City, Missouri and is currently pursuing a MM in Vocal Performance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison with Dr. Sarah Brailey. He has performed operatic roles such as Lysander (A Midsummer Night's Dream), Lurcanio (Ariodante), Kaspar (Amahl and the Night Visitors), Panatellas (Songbird), and Bardolfo (Falstaff). He has also performed numerous musical theatre roles such as Angel (RENT), Henrik (A Little Night Music), The Baker (Into the Woods), Charlie Brown (You're a Good Man Charlie Brown), and Skipper (Madagascar: A Musical Adventure). In addition to his theatrical singing, Nathan is a passionate recitalist and advocate for Asian artists. Academically, Nathan is a FLAS (Foreign Language Area Studies) scholar studying the Korean language and his research focuses on Korean art song (Gagok) and the post-colonial musical milieu of South Korea as well as Asian diaspora representation in the performing arts.



Samuel Yoon, baritone

Age: 22

Nationality: USA

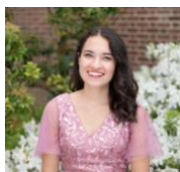
Current Residence: Albert Lea, MN

Native Language: English

Bimok (비목, 1969) — Chang Ihl Nam

Dear Mountain (산아, 1983) — Shin Dong Soo

Sam Yoon is a Korean-American baritone out of Albert Lea, MN. He is a recent graduate of Wartburg College, studying with Prof. Daniel Gast during his time there. He is committed to Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, pursuing a master's degree in voice in the Fall of 2025. At Indiana, Yoon will be under the tutelage of Dr. Brian Horne as he furthers his musical studies. During the Fall of 2023, he debuted in his first operatic role as the role of Father (Peter) in Humperdinck's Hansel and Gretel through Opera Workshop at Wartburg. In June 2024, he was invited to be a guest soloist in Seoul, South Korea for Agape Ensemble's 30th Anniversary Concert, Soli Deo Gloria, where he performed a version of "You Raise Me Up" which included Korean lyrics. In spring 2025, Yoon won the Metropolitan Chorale Art Song Competition in Cedar Falls, Iowa. This summer, Yoon performed the role of Dr. Falke in a production of Die Fledermaus with Varna International Music Academy.



Amanda Densmoor, *soprano*

Age: 27

Nationality: USA

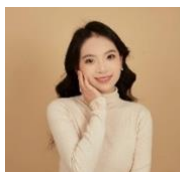
Current Residence: Silver Spring, MD

Native Language: English, Indonesian

Will You Draw Near (님이 오시는지, 1966) — Kim Gyu Hwan

Bird, Bird (새야 새야, 2016) — Lee Young Jo

Praised for her "clarion voice" which "soared to new heights" (Parterre Box), Indonesian-American soprano Amanda Densmoor has delighted audiences across the United States and Southeast Asia. In the 2024/2025 season she made her debut with Aula Simfonia Jakarta in Indonesia, as the Soprano II soloist in Mendelssohn's Elijah and sang Girl/1st Trio Member in Bernstein's Trouble in Tahiti with Annapolis Opera. Recent opera roles include Queen of the Night and Papagena in (Die Zauberflöte), Servilia (La clemenza di Tito), Nella (Gianni Schicchi), Suor Genovieffa (Suor Angelica), Patience (Patience), Second Woman (Dido and Aeneas), Kate (The Pirates of Penzance), Dalinda (Ariodante), Valentina Scarcella (Later the Same Evening), and Barbarina (Le nozze di Figaro). As a concert soloist, Amanda has sung solos in Orff's Carmina Burana, Carissimi's Jephthe, Haydn's Missa in Angustiis, Fauré's Requiem, and Mozart's Requiem.



Nan Sun, *mezzo-soprano*

Age: 27

Nationality: China

Current Residence: Tucson, Arizona

Native Language: Chinese

Bimok (비목, 1969) — Chang Ihl Nam

Loom Song (베를 노래, 2009) — Lee Won Ju

Chinese mezzo-soprano Nan Sun is a Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) candidate at the University of Arizona School of Music, studying under Professor Yunah Lee. She holds a Master degree and Graduate Performance Diploma from the Longy School of Music of Bard College in Boston, and a Bachelor's from the China Conservatory of Music. Her operatic roles included Dido (Dido and Aeneas), Marcellina and Cherubino (Le Nozze di Figaro), Tante Marie (Silver Fox), Dorabella

(Cosi fan tutte). Accolades feature Third Prize (Amelia Rieman Vocal Competition 2024), Outstanding Performer of the Day (Marguerite Ough Vocal Competition 2022), Second Prize (President's Competition 2022), top scholarship from China Conservatory of Music, and a Silver Award at the Osaka International Art Festival.



Jeysla Rosario Santos, *soprano*

Age: 23

Nationality: USA

Current Residence: Fairfield, OH

Native Language: Spanish, English

Will You Draw Near (님이 오시는지, 1966) — Kim Gyu Hwan

Spring Approaches from across the River (강 건너 봄이 오듯, 1990)

— Lim Geung Soo

Jeysla Rosario Santos is a Puerto Rican soprano currently studying at the Curtis Institute of Music under Julia Faulkner. She made her Curtis debut in Fall 2024 as Poppea in the East Coast premiere of The Comet / Poppea. A graduate of Miami University, Jeysla performed in world premieres with the Miami University Opera Theater and appeared as a soloist with the Miami Chamber Orchestra. She earned the Richard Miller Overall Best Performance Prize at the 2023 Ohio NATS Competition. In 2022, she studied Lieder at the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria, expanding her artistry under renowned teachers. Jeysla has also worked with renowned vocalists, such as: Joyce DiDonato, Kevin Short, Nicole Cabell, Gordon Hawkins, and others. Beyond technique, Jeysla finds joy in representing diverse voices in opera and believes in music's power to tell stories that resonate across communities. She looks forward to continuing to grow, perform, and connect through her art.



Jack Morin, *baritone*

Age: 23

Nationality: USA

Current residence: Ann Arbor, MI

Native Language: English

Bimok (비목, 1969) — Chang Ihl Nam

Longing for Mount Geumgang (그리운 금강산, 1961) --- Choi Young Sup

Jack Morin is a 23-year-old baritone. His work focusing on increasing the scope of the classical canon through the accessibility and performance of underrepresented songs has led him to perform on four continents. Jack is a scholar of African Diasporic and Korean song; he has won the George Shirley Vocal Competition, received over ten million views on Youtube for his Korean art song performances, and works on the African Diaspora Music Project and Korean Art Song Resource databases. Within the operatic canon, he's performed as Leporello in *Don Giovanni*, Jupiter in *Orphée aux enfers*, and John Cree in *Elizabeth Cree* in the past two years. Jack is a recent graduate of the University of Michigan School of Music with a bachelor's degrees in Vocal Performance and Choral Music Education. He will be pursuing a masters in voice at the Hochschule für Musik in Saarbrücken, Germany starting in October.



Samantha Martin, *soprano*

Age: 29

Nationality: USA

Current Residence: New York, NY

Native Language: English

Will You Draw Near (님이 오시는지, 1966) — Kim Gyu

Hwan

One-Heart Flower (동심초, 1945) — Kim Sung Tae

Korean-American soprano Samantha Martin is a lover of storytelling in music. An avid supporter of new works, Samantha has premiered and performed pieces by numerous contemporary composers, including Huang Ruo, Clarice Assad, Michael Csányi-Wills, Daron Hagen, Julianna Hall, John Musto, Györgi Kurtág, Libby Larsen, James Mobberly, as well as workshopping and performing the world premiere of Tom Cipullo's opera, *Mayo*, as Miss Goodrich and Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. Additional opera credits include Lauretta in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, Buoso's Ghost by Michael Ching and Laurie in Copland's *The Tender Land*. She was also a part of the 2024 Prototype festival performance of *Angel Island*. Named the winner of Bard Conservatory's 2020 Concerto Competition, she appeared with The Orchestra Now performing George Walker's *Lilacs*. During her time at Bard, she also appeared in the Vocal Arts Program's production of Gian Carlo Menotti's *The Medium* as Monica.



Eun Kyung Lee, *piano*

Eun Kyung Lee is a Korean American collaborative pianist. Equally experienced on piano, organ, and harpsichord, she brings stylistic sensitivity to a wide range of repertoire and performance settings. She began her career as a coach and accompanist with Nashville Opera's Mary Ragland Young Artist Program and has since worked with Opera Memphis, Vancouver Summer Opera Studio, Harlem Opera, and the New York Choral Society as a coach, répétiteur, and music director. Deeply committed to vocal collaboration and contemporary music, Eun Kyung has premiered works by composers such as Jennifer Higdon and Lori Laitman and continues to collaborate with today's leading voices. Her training includes fellowships with SongFest, Miami Music Festival, and the Vancouver Summer Opera Studio, supporting her development as both a sensitive collaborator and flexible musical partner. She holds a BM in Church Music and an MM in Organ from Yonsei University, as well as an MM and a Professional Studies Diploma in Collaborative Piano from the Mannes School of Music, where she received the Newtown Swift Award.

Competition Judges

Preliminary Round

Ryu-Kyung Kim, University of Dayton

Yoo Sun Na, Bunker Hill Community College

Matthew Thompson, University of Michigan

Lauren Woo, Korean Cultural Society of Boston

Misook Yun, Youngstown State University

Final Round

Ryu-Kyung Kim, University of Dayton

Yoon-Ji Lee, Berklee College of Music

Isaí Jess Muñoz, Boston Conservatory at Berklee

Yoo Sun Na, Bunker Hill Community College

Alison Trainer, Boston University

Competition Committee

Ryu-Kyung Kim, *Chair of Competition Committee*

Yoo Sun Na, *Artistic Director*

Lauren Woo, *Executive Administrator*

Special Thanks to

Carlene Younghae Kim, eMusicbiz

Youngsik Choi, Korean Art Song Institute

KOREAN CULTURAL SOCIETY OF BOSTON

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Hailanne Kang	Kathleen Marshall	Samuel Yoon
James Keller	Yoo Sun Na	

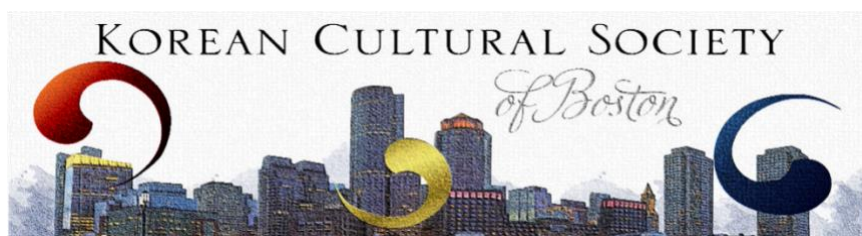
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can be made at <https://www.kcsboston.org/contribute>.**

Korean Cultural Society of Boston
Upcoming Events

- September 7, 3:00 pm** **Korean Traditional Music: *Between Breaths - A Sonic Memoir***
gamin with Piri, Saenghwang & Taepyeongso
100 Puritan Ln, Sudbury, MA
- September 14, 4:30 pm** **The 14th KCSB Benefit Dinner**
Griffin Museum of Photography, Winchester, MA
- October 3, 7:30 pm** **Resonance of Freedom: Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of Korean Independence & National Foundation Day of Korea**
World Premiere of Texu Kim's Manse (Viva Korea)
Cantata

Haeran Hong, soprano; Hyona Kim, mezzo-soprano;
Won Whi Choi, tenor; Kidon Choi, baritone

HaeSun Paik, piano
Dongmin Kim, conductor; New York Classical Players (NYCP)
NEC's Jordan Hall, Boston, MA
- November 8 - 23** **The 12th Annual KCSB Art Exhibition**
Bojagi and Beyond: Chunghie Lee Invitational
Lexington Arts & Crafts Society, Lexington, MA



Korean Art Song Competition for Young Singers

Texts and Translations

Required Song for Medium/Low Voice

비목

초연이 쓸고 간 깊은 계곡
깊은 계곡 양지 녀에
비바람 긴 세월로 이름 모를
이름 모를 비목이여
먼 고향 초동 친구 두고 온 하늘가
그리워 마디마디
이끼 되어 맺혔네

궁노루 산울림 달빛 타고
달빛 타고 흐르는 밤
홀로 선 적막감에 울어 지친
울어 지친 비목이여
그 옛날 천진스런 추억은 애달파
서러움 알알이
돌이 되어 쌓였네

- 한명희 Hahn Myung Hee

Bimok (Wooden Cross)

Deep valley swept over by gun smoke,
In a sunlit spot of that deep valley.
Name worn off by wind, rain and time,
A nameless wooden cross.
Longing for the open horizon
That left the old friends far behind,
Every joint filled with moss.

The mountain echo of a musk deer
Glides with the moonlight.
Wooden cross weary with tears,
Standing in desolation.
Distant innocent memories
Became the sorrow and turned to stones
Around the tomb.

Required Song for High Voice

님이 오시는지

물망초 꿈꾸는
강가를 돌아
달빛 먼 길
님이 오시는가
갈숲에 이는 바람
그대 발자취까
흐르는 물소리
님의 노래인가
내 맘은 외로워 한없이 떠돌고
새벽이 오려는지 바람만 차오네

백합화 꿈꾸는
들녘을 지나
달빛 먼 길
내 님이 오시는가
풀물에 배인 치마
끌고 오는 소리
꽃향기 헤치고
님이 오시는가
내 맘은 떨리어 끝없이 헤매고
새벽이 오려는지 바람이 이네
바람이 이네

- 박문호 Bak Mun Ho

Will You Draw Near

Along the river shore,
Forget-me-nots are dreaming.
Will you draw near
On a distant moonlit path?
Blowing wind in the reed field,
Is that your footsteps?
Sound of the flowing water,
Is that your song?
My heart is lonely, adrift endlessly.
The wind is cold, will the dawn break.

Passing through the field of
Dreaming lilies,
Will you draw near
On a distant moonlit path?
The sound of bustling skirt
Trailing through the grass,
Will you draw near
Through the scent of flowers?
My heart trembles, roaming endlessly,
The wind wafts, will the dawn break.
The wind wafts.

내 영혼 바람 되어

그 곳에서 울지 마오
나 거기 없소
나 그곳에 잠들지 않았다고
그 곳에서 슬퍼 마오
나 거기 없소
그 자리에 잠든 게 아니라고

나는 천의 바람이 되어
찬란히 빛나는 눈빛 되어
곡식 영그는 햇빛 되어
하늘한 가을 비 되어

그대 아침 고요히 깨나면
새가 되어 날아올라
밤이 되면 저 하늘 별빛 되어
부드럽게 빛난다오

그 곳에서 울지마오
나 거기 없소
나 그 곳에 잠들지 않았다고
그 곳에서 슬퍼마오
나 거기 없소
이 세상을 떠난 게 아니라고

A Thousand Winds

Do not weep for me there.
I am not there,
I have not fallen asleep in that place.
Do not grieve in that place.
I am not there,
I do not sleep there.

I am the thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints on snow,
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle, autumn rain.

When you awaken in the morning hush
I am the swift up-flinging rush of birds
In quiet, circling flight;
I also shine as stars in the soft night.

Do not weep for me there.
I am not there,
I have not fallen asleep in that place.
Do not grieve in that place.
I am not there,
I did not leave this world.

베틀노래

내 땀의 한 방울도 날줄에 스며
그대 영혼 감싸기에 따뜻하거라
고즈넉기 풀어 감은 고통의 실꾸리
한평생 오가는 만남의 잉아

우리님 생각과 실실이 짜여
새벽 바람 막아줄 실비단이거라

기다리마 기다리마 기다리마
하루에도 열 두 번 끊기는 실이여
무작정 풀리기엔 무서운 맘이거든
단번에 끝내기엔 아쉬운 밤이거든
허천들린 사랑가

평생동안 흘린 눈물
모조리 스며
그대 아픔 덮어주는 비단길이거라
비단길이거라

- 고정희 Koh Jung Hee

Loom Song

Drops of my sweat soak into the thread,
Warming your soul as it gently spreads.
My pain entwined in strands so fine,
Moves back and forth with heddles' line.

I weave the silk with thoughts of you,
Hoping it shields you from the cold wind.

I will wait and wait,
Though threads may break
A dozen times each day.
My heart will sing thirsty love song,
With fear and regret all along.

All tears I've shed throughout my days
Are woven in this silk to stay—
A path of silk to ease your pain,
A gentle cover for your strain.

시간에 기대어

저 언덕 너머 어딘가
그대가 살고 있을까
계절이 수놓은 시간이란 덤 위에
너와 난 나약한 사람

바람이 닿는 여기 어딘가
우리는 남아있을까
연습이 없는 세월의 무게만큼 더
너와 난 외로운 사람

슬픔이 닿는 여기 어딘가
우리는 살아있을까
후회투성이 살아온 세월만큼 더
너와 난 외로운 사람

난 기억하오 난 추억하오
소원해져버린 우리의 관계도
사랑하오 변해버린 그대 모습
그리워하고 또 잊어야하는
그 시간에 기댄 우리

사랑하오 세상이 하얗게 저도
덤으로 사는 반복된 하루가

난 기억하오 난 추억하오
소원해져버린 우리의 관계도
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그 시간에 기댄 우리

- 최진 Choi Jin

Leaning on the Time

Somewhere beyond that distant hill,
I wonder if you live there still.
On embroidered time that seasons weave,
You and I are fragile beings.

Somewhere the wind softly blows,
I wonder if we still remain there.
With heavy burdens of living,
You and I are lonely inside.

Somewhere sorrow gently falls,
I wonder if we are still surviving there.
With years weighed down by regret,
You and I are lonely souls.

I remember, I recall,
Our bond once strong, now distant.
Your look have changed now,
But leaning on the time,
I love and miss you still.

I love you though the world turns white,
Grateful for each day and night.

I remember, I recall
Our bond once strong, now distant.
Your look have changed now,
But leaning on the time,
I love and miss you still.

연꽃 만나고 가는 바람같이

섭섭하게,
그러나 아주 섭섭치는 말고
좀 섭섭한 듯만 하게

이별이게,
그러나 아주 영 이별은 말고
어디 내생에서라도
다시 만나기로 하는 이별이게

연꽃
만나러 가는
바람이 아니라
만나고 가는 바람같이

옛그제
만나고 가는 바람 아니라
한 두 칠 전
만나고 가는 바람같이

Like the Wind that Met with Lotus

Regrets,
Not too heavy with regrets,
But just a little touched by sorrow.

Farewell,
Not a farewell forever,
But a parting until we meet again—
Maybe in another life.

Not like the wind that's rushing
To meet the lotus flower,
But like the wind that lingers
After the encounter is over.

Not like the wind
That met the flower yesterday,
But like the wind that met it seasons ago,
Lingering still as it drifts away.

- 서정주 Seo Jeong Ju

산아

산아
사랑하는 내 고향의 산아
종내 너를 두고 나는 가누나

내 마음의 무게이고
내 녀의 크낙한 날개여
두 팔로 내 목을 얼싸안고
안타까이 나를 울리는 사랑아
산아 내 고향의 산아
잘 있거라

오 내가 죽어서도 돌아올 보금자리여
어디메 묻혔다가도 되돌아와 묻힐
내 무덤이여

오 눈 익은 뿔부리 뿔부리여
살뜰한 골짜기 골짜기여
언제 돌아온단 기약도 못한 채
종내 나는 떠나가누나

잘 있거라 잘 있거라 잘 있거라
산아 산아
사랑하는 내 고향의 산아

Dear Mountain

Mountain,
Dear hills of my hometown,
At last, I must leave you now.

The weight that burdens my heart's core,
The vast wings of my soaring soul.
Your arms embrace me 'round my neck,
And makes me to cry deep inside.
Mountain, dear hills of my hometown,
Farewell to you.

Oh, my home to which I will return,
Though the death may claim me—
My grave where I will come to rest.

Oh, those summits, known and dear,
And valleys I hold so dear,
I leave you now
With no promise of returning.

Farewell, farewell, farewell.
O mountain, dear mountain,
Dear hills of my hometown!

- 신흥철 Shin Hong Chul

새야 새야

새야 새야 파랑새야
녹두밭에 앉지마라
녹두꽃이 떨어지면
청포장수 울고간다
청포장수 울고 가면
내 마음도 아파 온다

새야 새야 파랑새야
우리 논에 앉지 마라
올아버지 올어머니
손톱 발톱 다 빠진다

새야 새야 파랑새야
녹두밭에 앉지 말고
이 내 몸에 날아앉아
멀리 떠난 내 낭군님
사랑 소식 전해주렴

새야 새야 파랑새야
이 내 몸에 날아앉아
사랑 소식 전해다오
새야 새야

Bird, Bird

Bird, bird, blue bird,
Don't rest in the mung bean field.
If the mung bean blossoms fall,
The farmers will leave in tears.
If the farmers leave in tears,
My own heart will ache and weep.

Bird, bird, blue bird,
Do not land in our rice paddy.
My poor father, my poor mother,
Will lose their nails from hard working.

Bird, bird, blue bird,
Do not rest in the mung bean field,
But come and perch upon me
And carry news of my love
To my beloved who has gone far away.

Bird, bird, blue bird,
Come and perch upon me
And bring news of love from far away,
Bird... bird.

강 건너 봄이 오듯

앞 강에 살얼음은 언제나 풀릴까나
짐 실은 배가 저만큼
새벽 안개 헤쳐왔네

연분홍 꽃다발 한아름 안고서
물 건너 우련한 빛을
강마을에 내리누나

앞 강에 살얼음은 언제나 풀릴까나
짐 실은 배가 저만큼
새벽 안개 헤쳐왔네

내 마음 어둔 골에 나의 봄 풀어 놓아
화사한 그리움 말없이
말없이 흐르는구나

오늘도 강물따라 뗏목처럼 흐를까나
새 소리 바람 소리
물 흐르듯 나부끼네

Spring Approaches from Across the River

When will the ice on the river melt?
The boat is approaching from far away
In the midst of the morning fog.

The spring comes to town
From the other side of the river
With flowers bloom in misty colors.

When will the ice on the river melt?
The boat is approaching from far away
In the midst of the morning fog.

Spring awakes warm longing
In my heart
And let it run on silently.

Shall I also flow like a raft today?
Birds are singing, winds are blowing
Along the running river.

- 송길자 Song Gil Ja

그리운 금강산

누구의 주재런가
맑고 고운 산
그리운 만 이천 봉
말은 없어도

이제야 자유만민
옷깃 여미며
그 이름 다시 부를
우리 금강산

수수만년 아름다운 산
못 가본지 몇 해
오늘에야 찾을 날 왔나
금강산은 부른다

비로봉 그 봉우리
예대로인가
흰 구름 솔바람도
무심히 가나

발 아래 산해만리
보이지 마라
우리 다 맺힌 슬픔
풀릴 때까지

수수만년 아름다운 산
못 가본지 몇 해
오늘에야 찾을 날 왔나
금강산은 부른다

- 한상억 Han Sang Eok

Longing for Mount Geumgang

Who has made this mountain
So pure and beautiful?
Their twelve-thousand peaks
Stand still silently.

Now the people will call
Its name in freedom
With reverence:
Our Mount Geumgang.

O how many years
Have we missed the beautiful mountain?
At last today, the time is near
The Geumgang is calling us.

Is that peak, Birobong,
Still as it once was?
Do the white cloud and pine breezes
Still pass by without care?

Mountains and seas stretched endlessly,
Stay hidden from our view,
Until the knots of sorrow within us
Have loosed and undone.

O how many years
Have we missed the beautiful mountain?
At last today, the time is near
The Geumgang is calling us.

동심초

꽃잎은 하염없이 바람에 지고
만날 날은 아득타
기약이 없네
무어라 맘과 맘은 맺지 못하고
한갓되이 풀잎만 맺으려는고

바람에 꽃이 지니
세월 덧없어
만날 길은 뜬 구름
기약이 없네
무어라 맘과 맘은 맺지 못하고
한갓되이 풀잎만 맺으려는고

One-Heart Flower/Lover's Knot

Petals fall endlessly in the wind,
The day we meet again feels so far away,
With no promise.
Why can our hearts not be bound together,
While the grass leaves seem to tie in vain?

The wind scatters the flowers,
The hours fade,
The path to you drifts like clouds
With no promise.
Why can our hearts not be bound together,
While the grass leaves seem to tie in vain?

- Original Chinese poem by Xue Tao (薛涛) 설도
Translated to Korean by 김안서 Kim Ahn Seo