

Reena Esmail

SHE WILL TRANSFORM YOU

SECULAR | SSATB | ORCHESTRA

VOCAL SCORE

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Impression: 1

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Composer's note

She Will Transform You explores the idea of belonging and is centred around a powerful poem by Indian-American author Neelanjana Banerjee. Told through the voice of an immigrant mother, who feels shunned by both her country of origin and her country of residence, this piece is a fervent prayer for her child: that, with a little bit of kindness from the child's environment, they might have the power and perspective to embrace and connect both cultures.

As a child of immigrants myself, I have felt that distance—of being the 'other' in both America and India—and also the resonance of being at home in either place.

The piece moves in and out of a Hindustani raga called Rageshree, which has such a lush resonance; it is also harmonically grounded in an unusual way, containing no 5th scale degree, which makes our ear feel like it's never quite 'home'. As a result, it has both a sense of belonging and one of distance. It is these two feelings, and the journey between them, that I wanted to explore in this work.

This note may be reproduced as required for programme notes.

Duration: 16 minutes

Instrumentation

2 flutes (2nd doubling piccolo)

2 oboes

2 clarinets in B \flat

2 bassoons

4 horns in F

2 trumpets in B \flat

3 trombones

tuba

timpani

percussion—2 or 3 players (suspended cymbal, glockenspiel, vibraphone)

harp

celeste

strings

Full scores and instrumental parts are available on hire/rental.

This piece is also available in an independent version for SSATB and flute (ISBN 978-0-19-356480-0).

She Will Transform You

REENA ESMAIL

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Handwritten musical score for 'The Rose Tree'. The score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in 2/4 time. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The melody is in the Treble staff, and the bass line is in the Bass staff. The score includes dynamic markings: *p* (piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The piece is marked with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket. The lyrics are written below the Treble staff.

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9

LH

LH

*

13

A

pesante

p

pesante

p

mf

p

3 5

3 5

3 3

16

mf

p

3 3 3

3 3

3 3

3 3

21

f

24

* Fanned beams indicate a gradual speeding up through the beamed group.

B

27

p *mf* *p*

30

f *p* *p*

C Serene ♩ = c.44

35

mp *f* *mf* *p* *f*

39

mp *mp*

42

mf *mp* *mf* *p*

[illegible]

52

S. 1

S. 2

A.

T.

B.

mp

mp

mp

p (stagger breathing)

p (stagger breathing)

mm

Home - land, why, *mm*

E - lude me,

Home-land, why do you e-lude me, e-lude me,

Home-land, why do you e-lude me?

[illegible]

57 *mp*

E - lude me, *3* tease me,
tease me, e - lude me, *3* tease me,
tease me, e - lude me, tease me, e -

colp

60 *p*

e - lude *3* me? *p*
e - lude me, e - lude me, e - lude me? *p*
- lude me, e - lude me, e - lude me? *p*
5 *p*