

**The Day of Hope** was commissioned by the Augsburg College Riverside Singers for the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize Forum in honor of Shirin Ebadi, Iranian human rights lawyer and recipient of the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize. For this occasion, it seemed fitting to use Persian texts of the 11th through the 14th centuries--Khayyam, Sa'di, Hafez, Khaqani--as well as Ms. Ebadi's own words, taken from her Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech.

Just as the texts have been filtered through their translators' 19th and 20th century sensibilities, so the music is a free translation into the Western concert idiom of traditional Persian music, its exotically ornamented monody, its unfamiliar modes.