

I first read Cavafy's *Ithaka* in the early 1970s as an undergraduate at the University of Minnesota, high on spring, new fields of knowledge, fascinating classes and charismatic professors. It was one of two modern Greek poems that inspired *Mythical Journeys*, my duo for flute and guitar. Now I have set the text again, in honor of my Russian history professor, Theofanis G. Stavrou, on his retirement. The music is in 6/8 and 9/8, the traditional meters of voyaging. The voyage has been one of adventure, of instruction, and I have entered into ports seen for the first time with much gratitude, much joy.