

### About the Composer

Carol Barnett's music has been called audacious and engaging. Her varied catalog includes works for solo voice, piano, chorus, diverse chamber ensembles, orchestra, and wind ensemble.

She was awarded the 2003 Nancy Van de Vate International Prize for Opera for her chamber opera, *Snow*, and her music theater work *Meeting at Seneca Falls* was featured at the 2006 Diversity Festival in Red Wing, MN. *The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass*, commissioned in 2006 by VocalEssence and written with Marisha Chamberlain, had its Carnegie Hall debut in February 2013, and has become a favorite across the country. Recent works include *Will's Ladies*, a Shakespeare cycle for mezzo-soprano Clara Osowski and the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra; *A Monument to Adam*, for the Cantata Singers; and *Summer 2020*, for the 2022 Biennial National Convention of the American Guild of Organists. Barnett is a charter member of the American Composers Forum and a graduate of the University of Minnesota, where she studied composition with Dominick Argento and Paul Fetler. She was composer-in-residence with the Dale Warland Singers from 1992 to 2001, and a member of the adjunct faculty at Augsburg College from 2000 to 2015.

### About the Poet

Edward Thomas (1878-1917) was born in London. He was a freelance writer and editor until his friend Robert Frost encouraged him to write poetry. As with Frost, most of his poems were inspired by his love of nature. He died at age thirty-nine in France at the Battle of Arras. His *Collected Poems* appeared in 1920.

#### *Winter, Snow*

Winter, bright light,  
Cold flame of renewal,  
Music of ice.

-Carol Barnett

In the gloom of whiteness,  
In the great silence of snow,  
A child was sighing  
And bitterly saying: "Oh,  
They have killed a white bird up there on her nest,  
The down is fluttering from her breast!"  
And still it fell through the dusky brightness  
On the child crying for the bird of the snow.

-Edward Thomas

Range



### Program Note

It was hard to find the perfect text for the 2005-2006 Minnesota All-State Women's Choir. I tried writing words to fit the bright B major chords I was hearing, but only got as far as three lines about winter. Then I found the lovely "Snow" by the Edwardian British poet Edward Thomas and decided to contrast the cold brightness of my lyrics with the soft snowy whiteness of Thomas's lines. The result is an other-worldly little waltz for treble voices and piano.

Complete recording at [carolbarnett.net](http://carolbarnett.net)