

GEORGE WINSTON
PLAINS
solo piano

PART 1

1. ***Dubuque*** (traditional American, arranged by George Winston) 2:27
A variation on an American fiddle tune, that I first learned from the great harmonica player, Rick Epping, played by him as a medley with the fiddle tune, *Billy on the Low Land*. I later recorded *Billy on the Low Land* as a piano solo on my album, MONTANA—A LOVE STORY; and I also recoded *Dubuque* on my soundtrack for the children’s film, PUMPKIN CIRCLE, produced by George Levinson and Informed Democracy [www.informeddemocracy.com].

2. ***Before Barbed Wire*** (Philip Aaberg) 4:19
By Montana pianist, Philip Aaberg, on his album, OUT OF THE FRAME. I have also recorded two other Phil Aaberg pieces: *Nevertheless Hello*, on my album, MONTANA – A LOVE STORY, (also on Phil’s album, OUT OF THE FRAME), and *Spring Creek*, on my SUMMER album, (also on Phil’s album, HIGH PLAINS).

All of Phil Aaberg’s music has been very inspirational to me, including his other Montana theme albums, UPRIGHT, LIVE IN MONTANA, FIELD NOTES, and his solo piano album of movie themes, CINEMA. Phil’s music beautifully captures the essence of Montana - it has been a great experience to be driving there, listening to his music while going to the places that inspired him to compose. Phil Aaberg’s website is www.sweetgrassmusic.com.

3. ***Frangenti*** (Massimo Gatti) 3:51
A love song by the Italian mandolinist and composer, Massimo Gatti. My arrangement was inspired by the version by Butch Baldassari, (1952-2009), on his album with the Nashville Mandolin Ensemble, PLECTRASONICS.
4. ***Give Me Your Hand/La Valse Pour Les Petites Jeunes Filles*** (traditional Irish/ traditional Belgian, arranged by Patrick Ball & George Winston) 2:41

This medley features the first parts of two songs:

Give Me Your Hand, a traditional Irish love song, is inspired by the version by Celtic wire string harpist, Patrick Ball, on his album, CELTIC HARP I: THE MUSIC OF TURLOUGH O’CAROLAN.

La Valse Pour Les Petites Jeunes Filles (The Waltz for the Young Ladies), a traditional Belgian waltz, is also inspired by Patrick Ball, on his album, CELTIC HARP IV: O’CAROLAN’S DREAM.

5. ***No Ke Ano Ahiahi (In the Evening Time)*** (traditional Hawaiian, arranged by George Winston) 5:12
I usually play this piece as a guitar solo. This is the first Hawaiian song I fell in love with back in the mid 1970s. It is most inspired by the slow version by the late Phillip “Gabby”

Pahinui (1918-1980), the father of the modern Slack Key guitar era, on his album, *THE GABBY PAHINUI HAWAIIAN BAND - VOLUME 2* (Panini Records). I first heard this song as an up-tempo version by Gabby Pahinui with the Sons of Hawai`i on their album, *THE ISLAND HERITAGE* (Panini Records). I have also been inspired by a version recorded by Gabby's son, Cyril Pahinui, on his album, *6 & 12 STRING SLACK KEY* (Dancing Cat Records), and Keola Beamer on his album, *WOODEN BOAT* (Dancing Cat Records), as well as Led Kaapana and Bob Brozman, as a pure Slack Key and acoustic steel guitar duet on their album, *IN THE SADDLE* (Dancing Cat Records). [Also see www.dancingcat.com].

I always envision the Hawaiians looking out over the water at night when I hear this song, and I always hear it in my head when I look out over the vastness of the plains.

Dedicated to the memory of Larry Angen.

6. *Graduation* 1:47
7. *Teach Me Tonight* (Gene De Paul & Sammy Cahn) 4:13
Inspired by the vision of a Montana Saturday night dance. This standard was written in 1953, with music by Gene De Paul and lyrics by Sammy Cahn. I was also very inspired by New Orleans R&B pianist, James Booker (1939-1983), [www.georgewinston.com/faqs.html#booker], and the New Orleans R&B/jazz pianist, Henry Butler [www.henrybutler.com].
8. *Rainsong* 4:41
9. *Merry-Go-Round* (traditional American, arranged by George Winston) 3:23

PART 2

10. *The Dance* (Tony Arata) 4:50
By the Nashville songwriter, Tony Arata.
11. *Cloudburst* 3:10
Inspired by the work of the 20th century composer, Steve Reich. I play this piece in the middle of the song *Carol of the Bells*, (on my album, *DECEMBER*), in my Winter Concerts.
12. *The Swan* (Angelo Badalamenti & David Lynch) 6:14
Music by soundtrack composer, Angelo Badalamenti, with lyrics by David Lynch. This song was on Julee Cruise's first album, *FLOATING INTO THE NIGHT*, that came out in conjunction with the *TWIN PEAKS* television series, and which also had great soundtrack music by Angelo Badalamenti.
13. *`Ike Ia Ladana* (Queen Lili`uokalani, public domain, arranged by George Winston) 6:39
This is another piece I usually play on solo guitar. It was written in 1887, by Hawai`i's Queen Lili`uokalani (1838-1917), one of my favorite composers. She also used this melody for another song she wrote, called *Queen's Jubilee*. My arrangement was inspired by Slack Key guitarist/composer, Dennis Kamakahi's version on his album, *`OHANA [FAMILY]* (Dancing Cat Records). Dennis is my favorite vocal interpreter of Queen Lili`uokalani's pieces. Ozzie

Kotani, another great Slack Key guitarist, is my favorite instrumental interpreter of Lili`uokalani's pieces. Ozzie has recorded an album of her songs, TO HONOR A QUEEN –E HO'OHIWAHIWA I KA MO'I WAHINE – THE MUSIC OF LILI'UOKALANI (Dancing Cat Records). My piano version was recorded at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, in 1999.

Dedicated to the memory of Sally Neumiller.

14. *Plains (Eastern Montana Blues)* 3:49

15. *Angel* (Sarah McLachlan) 6:33

By Sarah McLachlan from her album, SURFACING. It was also featured in the film, CITY OF ANGELS. My version was again inspired by New Orleans pianists, James Booker and Henry Butler.

16. *Waltz for the Lonely* (Chet Atkins & Charles Goodrum) 3:17

This ballad by guitarist Chet Atkins, (1924-2001), worked best for me as a piano solo. Chet recorded it on his video, CHET ATKINS AND FRIENDS-MUSIC FROM THE HEART, and on his recording, THE MAGIC OF CHET ATKINS (Heartland Records).

Total time – 67:52

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For a complete discography and more information see www.georgewinston.com

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DANCING CAT RECORDS & HAWAIIAN SLACK KEY GUITAR

George Winston is recording many of the masters of Hawaiian Slack Key guitar for Dancing Cat Records. Slack Key is the name for the beautiful solo finger-style guitar tradition unique to the Islands, which began in the early 1800s, and pre-dates the better-known steel guitar by half a century.

For more information about Slack Key, to hear song samples, and to order Dancing Cat recordings online, visit our website at www.dancingcat.com - which also includes an eight

section information booklet about Slack Key guitar. If you would like to be on Dancing Cat's mailing list, or if you have any questions about Slack Key guitar, please email us at **ml@dancingcat.com**.

All pieces composed or arranged by George Winston except where noted.

www.georgewinston.com

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