

## 7 Solitary Songs (2012)

For female voice (mezzo-soprano or contralto) and piano

*Dedicated to all those who have ever had a taste of solitary existence*

This piece was written in July of 2012 during my stay at the Blue Dragonfly Studio in Lithuania where I had a luxury of time and space to explore the depths of solitude. There were days when I found myself at the piano wanting to capture subtleties of clearly felt solitary states of mind. When alone, even smallest shades of emotion are perceived through a microscopic awareness, thus filling the everyday with limitless gradations of inner experiences.

Somewhat remote source of inspiration for this piece came from a book “The Stations of Solitude” by Alice Koller. Here I was triggered simply by the idea of “stations” rather than the content ascribed to them by the author. I created my own version of “stations” which became 7 Solitary Songs. Each song has a title reflecting a specific emotional aspect of solitude.

These very intimate songs are suited for playing and singing done in solitary circumstances as well as occasionally sharing them with others publicly.

### 7 Solitary Songs:

- I. Shadows of bittersweet longing...
- II. Facing the void...
- III. Subtle joys
- IV. Cyclic modes of being
- V. Untamed desires
- VI. Tenacity
- VII. Quiet mind

*Approximate duration of the cycle is 20 – 24 minutes*