



Forever Sing

Music of Dvořák, Rubbra, Honegger,
Freed, Sowerby, Altman, Cleveland,
Tindley, Lowry

Elem Eley, *baritone*

JJ Penna, *piano*

Noel Werner, *organ*

J. Donald Dumpson, *arranger/piano*

STREET DATE: May 5, 2017

Format: 1 CD

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Label: Affetto



RELEASE INFO:

Internationally renowned baritone Elem Eley's fourth solo album, *Forever Sing*, is deeply personal, rooted in his southern upbringing and the heartfelt expression of singing from the Psalms. For this CD, Elem Eley chose beloved songs evoking memories of his youth, some that he has since called on in decades of performing around the world, and as Professor of Voice at Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, New Jersey. Meeting this challenge demands collaborators of diverse skills: His partner for the first three albums, pianist JJ Penna, plays the Classical settings of Dvořák, Rubbra, Honegger, and Altman. Concert organist Noel Werner accompanies Eley in the two sets by Isadore Freed and Leo Sowerby, recorded in the historic 1836 sanctuary of his home church, Nassau Presbyterian Church in Princeton, NJ. The final set of three Gospel songs is arranged and accompanied on piano by the nationally renowned Dr. J. Donald Dumpson of Philadelphia; their session was emotional and exciting to witness, as these two personal friends and outstanding artists created a unique sense and sound of the Gospel musical genre, unique to their partnership and recorded here for the ages. Pure genius in every track, AFFETTO Records takes pride in presenting this multi-faceted collaboration of music incredibly performed with depth and personal resonance.

TRACK LISTING:

Antonín Dvořák: *Biblical Songs*, Op. 99; JJ Penna, piano

- 1 | Clouds and darkness
- 2 | Lord, Thou art my refuge
- 3 | Hear my prayer
- 4 | God is my shepherd
- 5 | I will sing new songs
- 6 | Hear my prayer, O Lord
- 7 | By the waters of Babylon
- 8 | Turn Thee to me
- 9 | I will lift mine eyes
- 10 | Sing ye a joyful song.

Edmund Rubbra: *Three Psalms*, Op. 61; JJ Penna, piano

- 11 | Psalm 6
- 12 | Psalm 23
- 13 | Psalm 150

Arthur Honegger: *Trois Psaumes*; JJ Penna, piano

- 14 | Psaume XXXIV
- 15 | Psaume CXL
- 16 | Psaume CXXXVIII

17 | Isadore Freed: *Psalm VIII*; Noel Werner, organ

Leo Sowerby: *Three Psalms* (for baritone or contralto and organ); Noel Werner, organ

- 18 | Whoso Dwelleth (Psalm 91)
- 19 | O Be Joyful in the Lord (Psalm 100)
- 20 | I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes (Psalm 121)

21 | Laurie Altman: *My Shepherd, you supply my need*; JJ Penna, piano

***Three Gospel Songs*; J. Donald Dumpson, arranger/piano**

- 22 | James Cleveland: *I shall wear a golden crown*
- 23 | Charles A. Tindley: *Nothing Between*
- 24 | Robert Lowry: *How can I keep from singing?*