

Hashiveinu

for chamber ensemble

by Elisha Denburg

Duration: 7-8 min.

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Instrumentation:

Flute
Clarinet

Vibraphone (doubles Glockenspiel)

Piano

Violin
Violoncello

"Hashiveinu Adonai eilecha v'nashuva; chadeish yameinu k'kedem."

"Bring us back to you, Lord, and we will return; renew our days as of old."
- Lamentations 5:21

This work draws its conceptual inspiration from the above biblical Hebrew text and uses the traditional folk melody associated with this passage as its musical basis. The melody is presented in many different forms, sometimes as a whole and sometimes fragmented. Its continual, almost cyclic return can be interpreted both as recursion and renewal. The notion of playing with the listener's memory as the piece progresses is one that is pervasive, for we can only return if we are brought back; likewise, we can only be brought back if we choose to return.

- Elisha Denburg