

AMHRÁIN
EALAÍNE | IRISH
GHAEILGE | ART
2019 | SONG

Tionscadal na nAmhrán Ealaíne Gaeilge 2019 / Irish Language Art Song Project 2019

Coimisiúnaithe le maoiniú ón gComhairle Ealaíon / Commissioned with funds from the Arts Council

DHÁ AMHRÁN / TWO SONGS

1. Scáilbhean / Shadow-Woman

Téacs / Text: Colm Breathnach

2. Leaba Shíoda / Labysheedy (The Silken Bed)

Téacs / Text: Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill

SOPRÁN & PIANÓ / SOPRANO & PIANO

CEOL / MUSIC: FUHONG SHI

Dhá Amhrán / Two Songs | Fuhong Shi
soprán & pianó / soprano & piano

Scáilbhean / Shadow-Woman

Scáilbhean

Shadow-Woman

faighim do bholaithe ar an ngaoth
cumhracht ón bhfraoch

I get your scent on the wind
perfume from the heather

chím imlíne do thaoibh i measc na sléibhte

see your side outlined in the hills

an ghrian órga ag éirí os a gcionn
is í sin gile do shúl

the golden sun rising above them
is the brightness of your eyes

is mó ná bean tú
is tú an uile bhean

you are more than a woman
you are all women

do dhá lámh timpeall ar mo cholainn
ar an dtocht san oíche

your arms about my body
on the bed at night

agus d'anáil ar chúl mo mhúineáil
siosadh na gaoithe i nduilleúr suain

your breath on the back of my neck
the wind rustling sleeping foliage

mórtas farraige do dhá mhama gheala
is iad ag éirí faoin tsíoda gorm

the swell of your white breasts
rising beneath blue silk

i lár tionóil is adhmaint lómhar tú
a aomann dearca an uile fhear

at a gathering you are adamant
attracting glances from every man

scáil tú a bhogann mar is áil leat
tré thaibhrthí cráite na mílte gealt

a shadow moving as you please
through the demented dreams of a thousand men

a chonaic tú aon uair amháin
is a chionn tú gach aon lá ó shin
le héirí na gréine is lena dul faoi

who saw you once
and see you every day since
at sunrise and sunset

d'imlíne á léiriú
mar scáth i measc sléibhte
do chumhracht ag teacht chucu
ar an ngaoth ón bhfraoch

your profile defined
as a shadow in the hills
your perfume carried
from the heather on the wind

Le / By: Colm Breathnach
Aistriúchán Béarla / English Translation: Colm Breathnach

Scáthach, Coiscéim 1994
Jumping Off Shadows, Selected Contemporary Irish Poets,
eagarthóirí / editors Greg Delanty & Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill, Cork University Press, Cork, 1995

Atáirgthe le caoinhead ó Cholm Breathnach / Reproduced by kind permission of Colm Breathnach

Dhá Amhrán / Two Songs | Fuhong Shi
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Scáilbhean / Shadow-Woman

Nóta Scóir

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Score Note

In the following score there are three lines of text under the vocal staff. The top line is the song's text – the poetry. The middle line contains an IPA transcription as a guide for those singers unfamiliar with the Irish language. The bottom line is a word-for-word translation (in italics) of the poetry. This gives a hint to singers about the meaning and emphasis of the text.

Colm Breathnach
(foilsithe / published 1994)

Scáilbhean / Shadow-Woman

Soprán & Pianó / Soprano & Piano

Fuhong Shi (2019)

Mistéireach, cianbhraiteach, mealltach, mearbhlach, aislingeach /
Mysterious, remote, charming, illusory, dreamlike

♩ = 56 *Rubato ad. lib.*

mar a bheadh dordán (go dtí barra 10) / similar to humming (until bar 10)

Soprán / Soprano

a
a
ahh

Mistéireach, cianbhraiteach, mealltach, mearbhlach, aislingeach /
Mysterious, remote, charming, illusory, dreamlike

♩ = 56 *Rubato ad. lib.*

Pianó / Piano

6

8va
8va
8va

10

♩ = 69
mf

fa^him_ do_ bho-lai-the_ ar an ngaoth cumh-racht ón
fa:im_ dʌ vʌ.-li.-hə_ ɛɪ ʌn ɲʷe ku.-ɪʌxt ɔn
Get I your scent on the wind perfume from

♩ = 69

* is féidir na leathchamáin ar fad i bpáirt an tsopráin a rá le *portamento* / all 16th notes in the soprano part may be sung with *portamento*

14

bhfra - - och chím im - lí - ne do_ thaoibh i measc na sléibh - te
 v.ie: - - əx xim im. - li. - nə dΛ_ hiv i mæsk na fle. - tə
 the heather see I outline (of) your side among the mountains

17

an ghrian ór - ga ag éi - rí os a gcionn
 An jii:ən oi. - gə əg a:i. - ii os a g'iun
 the sun gol - den rising above them

21

is í sin gi - le do_ shúl is mó ná bean tú is tú an
 is i fm gi. - lə dΛ_ hul is mo na bæ_n_ tu is tu An
 that is the brightness of your eye more than a woman (are) you are - you

Fonnmhar, marthanach, áthasach, ar foluain /
Enthusiastic, lingering, joyful, floating

♩ = 72

25 *mp* *mf*

ui-le bhean_ do dhá láimh tim-peall_ ar mo_ cho-lainn_
i.-lə væn_ dʌ ɣa_ la:rv_ tim.-pəl_ εɪ mʌ_ χʌ.-lɪn_
all women your two hands a-round my bo-dy

Fonnmhar, marthanach, áthasach, ar foluain /
Enthusiastic, lingering, joyful, floating

♩ = 72

mf *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

29 *p* *mp* *mf* *p* *mp*

ar an dtocht san oí-che a-gus d'a-náil ar chúl mo-mhuin - cáil
εɪ ʌn dʌxt san i.-hə a.-gəs dʌ.-nɔ:ɪl εɪ χʉl mʌ- vʌ:ɪn. - v:ɪl
on the mattress at night and your breath on back of my neck

mp

33 *mf* *f* *mp*

sio - sadh na gaoi - the i ndui - lliúr suain mór - tas fa - rrai - ge do dhá mha - ma
 fi. - sə nə g^wi. - hə ɪ ni. - lʲuɪ su:m moɪ. - təs fə. - ɪ. - gɛ dʲə ɣə vɛ. - ma
 his - sing of wind in leaves sleeping swel - ling of sea your two breasts

36 *f* *mp*

ghea - la is iad ag éi - rí faoin tsí - o - da
 jæ. - la ɪs i:əd ɛg a:ɪ. - ɪi f^win ti: - ʌ. - də
 bright and they rising under the silk

Faoi dhraíocht, dodhearmadta /
 Enthralled, unforgettable

♩ = 76

39 *f*

go - - - rm
 gʌ. - - - ɹəm
 blue

Faoi dhraíocht, dodhearmadta /
 Enthralled, unforgettable

♩ = 76

42 *mf*

i lár tío - nóil is adh - maint ló - mhar tú a ao - mann dear - ca
 ɪ lɑɪ tɪ. - no:ɪl ɪs a:ɪ. - mɪnt lo. - vɑɪ tu a e:ʌ. - mən dəɪ. - kə
 in centre of gathering, are a magnet precious, you that attracts gaze

44 *f* *p*

an ui - le fhear scáil tú a bho - gann mar is áil leat
 ʌn ɪ. - lə æɪ skɑ:ɪl tu a vɑ. - gən mɑɪ ɪs a:ɪl læt
 of all men shadow, you, that moves as pleases you

47 *mp*

tré thaibh - rthí crái - te na míl - te gealt
 tɾe ha:ɪ. - ɾi kɾɑ:ɪ. - tə nɑ mil. - tə ɡɾɑ:ʌlt
 through dreams agonized of thousands of madmen

49

a cho-naic tú aon uair a - mháin is a chionn tú gach
 a χΑ.-nik tu e:An u:li a. - va:in is a xi:An tu gex
 that saw you one time on - ly and who see you every

52

aon lá ó shin le héi - rí na gréi-ne is le - na dul
 e:An lv o hm le ha:i.-ii na gre.-nə is le. - na dAl
 single day since with rise of sun and her setting

Ag féachaint i bhfad amach, iontach, brínglóideach /
 Looking far into the distance, fantastic, reverie

♩ = 60

55

fai d'im - lí - ne á léi - riú
 fwi dɪm. - li. - nə a le. - ri:u
 your outline showing

Ag féachaint i bhfad amach, iontach, brínglóideach /
 Looking far into the distance, fantastic, reverie

♩ = 60

* cas an défhoghar go gasta; fuaim leanúnach ar an "u" don chuid is mó / turn the diphthong quickly; the sustained sound should be mostly "u"

58

mp

mar scáth i measc sléibh - te do chumh-racht ag teacht chu - cu
 mæɪ ska ɪ mæsk sl̪e. - t̪ə d̪ɫ χu. - ɫAχt æg tæxt χu. - h̪ə
 as a shadow among mountains your per - fume coming to them

mp *p* *mp* *p*

61

mp

ar an ngaoth ón bhfra - och
 εɪ an ŋʷe on vɪe: - - ɫχ
 on the wind from the heather

mp *p* *rit.* *p*

Dhá Amhrán / Two Songs | Fuhong Shi
soprán & pianó / soprano & piano

Leaba Shíoda / Labysheedy (The Silken Bed)

Leaba Shíoda

Do chóireoinn leaba duit
i Leaba Shíoda
sa bhféar ard
faoi iomrascáil na gerann
is bheadh do chraiceann ann
mar shíoda ar shíoda
sa doircheacht
am lonnaithe na leamhan.

Craiceann a shníonn
go gléineach thar do ghéaga
mar bhainne á dháil as crúiscíní
am lóin
is tréad gabhar ag gabháil thar chnocáin
do chuid gruaige
cnocáin ar a bhfuil failte arda
is dhá ghleann atá domhain.

Is bheadh do bheola taise
ar mhilseacht shiúcra
tráthnóna is sinn ag spaisteoireacht
cois abhann
is na gaotha meala
ag séideadh thar an Sionna
is na fiúisí ag beannú duit
ceann ar cheann.

Na fiúisí ag ísliú
a gceanna maorga
ag umhlú síos don áilleacht
os a gcomhair
is do phriocfainn péire acu
mar shiogairlíní
is do mhaiseoinn do chluasa
mar bhrídeog.

Ó, chóireoinn leaba duit
i Leaba Shíoda
le hamhascarnach an lae
i ndeireadh thall
is ba mhór an pléisiúr dúinn
bheith géaga ar ghéaga
ag iomrascáil
am lonnaithe na leamhan.

Labysheedy (The Silken Bed)

I'd make a bed for you
in Labysheedy
in the tall grass
under the wrestling trees
where your skin
would be silk upon silk
in the darkness
when the moths are coming down.

Skin which glistens
shining over your limbs
like milk being poured
from jugs at dinnertime;
your hair is a herd of goats
moving over rolling hills,
hills that have high cliffs
and two ravines.

And your damp lips
would be as sweet as sugar
at evening and we walking
by the riverside
with honeyed breezes
blowing over the Shannon
and the fuchsias bowing down to you
one by one.

The fuchsias bending low
their solemn heads
in obeisance to the beauty
in front of them
I would pick a pair of flowers
as pendant earrings
to adorn you
like a bride in shining clothes.

O I'd make a bed for you
in Labysheedy,
in the twilight hour
with evening falling slow
and what a pleasure it would be
to have our limbs entwine
wrestling
while the moths are coming down.

Le / By: Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill
Aistriúchán Béarla / English Translation: Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill

Selected poems: Rogha Dánta, foilsithe ag / published by New Island Books, 2004
Atáirgthe le caoinchead ó Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill / Reproduced by kind permission of Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill

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Leaba Shíoda / Labysheedy (The Silken Bed)

Soprán & Pianó / Soprano & Piano

Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill
(foilsithe / published 2004)

Fuhong Shi (2019)

Dolce, tnúthánach, paiseanta /

Dolce, longing, passionate

♩ = 63 Rubato ad. lib.

Soprán / Soprano

p

Do chóí - reinn
dʌ χʊ:ɪ - ɹɔ:ɪŋ
Would make-I

Dolce, tnúthánach, paiseanta /
Dolce, longing, passionate
♩ = 63 Rubato ad. lib.

Pianó / Piano

pp *p*

3

lea - ba duit i Lea - ba Shí - da,
læ. - bæ dt̪ i læ. - bæ hi:ɫ - də
a bed for you in Bed of Silk (Labysheedy),

6

i Lea - ba Shí - da sa bhféar ard faoi
ɪ læ. - bæ hi:ɫ - də sa ve:ɹ ard fwi
in Bed of Silk (Labysheedy) in the tall grass under

9

iom - ras-cáil na gcrann is bheadh do chraí - ceann ann
 ἄμ. - ἰἄς.-κα:ίλ na gcrann is ἂν ἔλθῃς do χρῆ. - κέν a:un
 wrestling of trees and would your skin be there

12

mar shí - o - da ar shí - o - da sa doi - r -
 μέλ. hi. - ἄ. - δᾶ εἰ hi. - ἄ. - δᾶ σε δι. - ἴ. -
 as silk upon silk in (the) darkness

15

poco rit. . . . Più mosso ♩ = 80
mf

- cheacht am lo - nnai - the na leamhan. Craí - ceann a
 - xəxt a:um lᾶ. - ní. - hᾶ nᾶ læ:un κῆ. - κέν a
 (the) time (for) settling of the moths. Skin that

poco rit. . . . Più mosso ♩ = 80

18

shní - - onn go gléi-neach thar do ghéa - - ga
 hna:i: - - ən ɣl gle.-nəx hɛ:l dɔ je:ə. - - gə
 stretches gleaming over your limbs

21

mar bhai - nne á dháil as crúis - cí - ní am
 mɛ:l va:i. - nɛ a ɣa:ɪl ɛs kru:ɪʃ - ki. - ni a:um
 as milk being poured from jugs (at)

24

ló - - - in is tréad ga-bhar ag ga - bháil
 lo: - - - in is tie:ad ɣɛ.-waɪ ɛg ɣl. - wail
 lunchtime and (a) herd of goats going

26

thar ch - no - cáin do chuid grua - i - ge
 hɛɪ ʧə.-nɒ. - kɑ:n dɒ ʧʷɪd ɡru. - ɪ. - ɡə
 over hills (is) your hair

28

c - no - cáin ar a bhfuil faill - te ar - - da
 kə.-nɒ. - kɑ:m ɛɪ a wɪl fa:ɪl. - tə aɪ. - - də
 hills upon which are cliffs high

30

is dhá ghleann a - tá do - mhain...
 ɪs ɣɑ ɡlɛ:un a. - ta da:u. - wɪn...
 and two valleys that are deep.

Leaba Shíoda / Labysheedy (The Silken Bed) | Fuhong Shi

32 *mp* *mf*

♩ = 72

Is bheadh do bheo - la tai - se ar — mhil-seacht shiú - cra
 is vʌχ dʌ vʰo. - lə tæ. - sʰə ɛ.ɪ — vil. - sʰʌxt hʰu. - kɪə
 And would-be your lips moist of sweet-ness of sugar

34 *mp* *mf*

tráth - nó - na is sinn ag spais - teoi - reacht_ cois_ abhann
 tɪ.ən. - ho. - nə is sʰin ɛg spæ:s̩. - to:ɪ. - ɪəxt_ kʰɪs̩_ a:un
 (at) afternoon and we walking by bank of river

36 *mp* *mf*

is na gao - tha mea - la, ag séi-deadh thar an Sio - nna
 is nɛ gʰe. - hæ mæ. - lə ɛg s̩e. - də h̩ɛɪ ʌn s̩ʰ. - nə
 and the winds honeyed blowing over the Shan - non

38 *mp* *p*

is na fiú - sí ag beann - ú duit ceann ar cheann,
 is ne fú:í. - fí eg bæn. - u dít k'á:un ɛ.ɪ x'á:un
 and the fus - chia greeting you one by one,

40 *mp*

ceann ar cheann. Na fiú - sí ag is -
 k'á:un ɛ.ɪ x'á:un ne fú:í. - fí eg if. -
 one by one. The Fus - chia lowering

42

liú a gcea - nna maor - ga
 -lu a g'á:u. - nə m'w'e:ɹɪ. - gə
 their heads noble

Leaba Shíoda / Labysheedy (The Silken Bed) | Fuhong Shi

44 *mf* *mp*

ag umh - lú sí - os don ái - lleacht os a gcomhair, os a gcomhair
 eg u. - lu sí: - las dan a.i. - læxt os a go:ii os a go:ii
 bowing down to the beauty before them, before them

46 *p*

is do phrioc - fainn péi - re a - - cu mar shio - gair-
 is dλ firiak. - hm pe. - iə v. - - kλ mēi h'λ. - gəi-
 and I'd pick a pair of them as pendants

48 *mp*

- lí - ní is do mhais - eoinn do chlua - - sa
 - li. - ni is dλ væf. - o:in dλ χlu:ə - - sə
 and I'd decorate your ears

Leaba Shíoda / Labysheedy (The Silken Bed) | Fuhong Shi

50 *f ff*

mar bhrí - deog. A
 meí v.ii. - díog a
 as a bríde. ahh

ff

52 *mp* $\text{♩} = 63$

Ó, chóí - reoinn lea - ba duit
 o χó:í. - ío:íη læ. - bæ dtí
 Oh, I would make a bed for you

$\text{♩} = 63$

p

54 *

i Lea - ba Shíó - - da,
 í læ. - bæ hí:Λ. - - də
 in Bed of Silk (Labysheedy)

* fan chomh fada agus is féidir leis an défhoghar a chasadh, coinnigh an fhuaim "í" / turn the diphthong as late as possible, mainly sustain the "i" sound

56

i Lea - ba Shíó - da le hamh - - as-car-nach
 ɪ læ. - bæ hi:ʌ. - də le ha:u. - - is.-kæɪ.-nəx
 in Bed of Silk (Labysheedy) at the dregs

58

an lae i ndei-readh thall
 ʌn le ɪ nɛ. - rə ha:ul
 of the day at long last

60

is ba mhór an pléi - síur dú - inn bheith géa - ga
 ɪs bæ vuɪ ʌn ple. - fuɪ du: - m vɛ ge:ə. - gə
 and great the plea - sure for us to be limbs

62 *mp*

ar ghéa - ga ag iom - ras - cáil
 ε.ɪ je:ə. - gə εg ʌm. - ɪʌs. - kɑ:ɪl
 on limbs wrestling

64 *p* rit. . . .

am lo - nnai-the na leamhan.
 a:um lɹ. - nɪ. - hə nɐ læ:un
 (the) time (for) settling of the moths.

8^{va} rit. . . .