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This Floating World for Solo Flute by Edie Hill

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This Floating World for Solo Flute by Edie Hill (b. 1962)

For the project completing my Master of Humanities degree I chose to present a creative work of a flute recital of music written by living female American composers of the 20th and 21st centuries. Research shows that rigid gender roles and stereotypes often prevent female composers from being able to share their music with the world. Promoting their music through performances is a great way to make the music of female composers known to audiences.

For this presentation I will perform one of my recital pieces, *This Floating World for Solo Flute*, written by Edie Hill and published in 2004. Ms. Hill received a BA in composition and piano performance from Bennington College and her MA and PhD from the University of Minnesota, studying with Vivian Fine, Lloyd Ultan, and Libby Larsen. She is currently artist-in-residence at the St. Paul's Schubert Club, a group that mentors young composers. Her compositions include choral, chamber, orchestral, and instrumental works and have been praised for their "dynamism, broad color palette, vivid and evocative images, economy and grace."

This Floating World consists of five movements which musically illustrate scenes in nature, inspired by the haiku of 17th century Japanese poet Matsuo Basho. The piece requires the performer to produce flute sound in non-traditional ways to set the mood of each movement. My presentation will consist of a short presentation that will give an overview of the piece, a performance of several of the movements, and a question and answer session at the end. The potential benefits of this presentation include fostering a greater interest in and awareness of music written by an underrepresented population.