



# PIANO

BY THE SEA

Classical "Water"  
MASTERPIECES

surrounded by  
SURF AND STREAM



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## **Carol Rosenberger comments:**

*Throughout my years as a musician, I've been drawn to music describing water. When I was living by the ocean in Malibu, California, the sound of the surf was an ever-present accompaniment as I practiced the piano and listened to music. This album is meant to suggest such an experience.*

*The descriptive "water" masterpieces written for the piano by the great French Impressionist composers and their contemporaries have found their way onto three of my piano albums. The program on this CD is a selection of favorites taken from those albums.*

*In the original recordings, of course, the Bösendorfer Imperial Concert Grand has the stage to itself. Here Delos sound engineer Jeff Mee has transformed the original performances to create a harmonious blend of music and relaxing water sounds.*

**Maurice Ravel** (1875-1937): Une barque sur l'océan (A Boat on the Ocean) (7:47)  
**Claude Debussy** (1862-1918): Reflets dans l'eau (Reflections in the Water) (5:45)  
**Ravel**: Ondine (Undine) (7:01)  
**Richard Rodney Bennett** (b. 1936): Barcarolle (Boat Song) (3:20)  
**Debussy**: Poissons d'or (Goldfish) (3:52)  
**Debussy**: Ondine (Undine) (3:27)  
**Franz Liszt** (1811-1886): Au lac de Wallenstadt (By the Lake at Wallenstadt) (3:35)  
**Liszt**: Les jeux d'eaux à la Villa d'Este (The Fountains of the Villa d'Este) (7:36)  
**Charles Tomlinson Griffes** (1884-1920): The Fountains of the Acqua Paola (3:54)  
**Ravel**: Jeu d'eau (Fountains) (5:40)  
**Griffes**: The Lake at Evening (3:41)  
**Sergei Rachmaninoff** (1873-1943): Barcarolle (5:01)  
**Gabriel Fauré** (1845-1924): Barcarolle No. 6 (4:01)  
**Debussy**: La Cathédrale engloutie (The Engulfed Cathedral) (7:14)

**Carol Rosenberger, piano**

**Overlay of surf, lake and stream sound effects by Jeff Mee**

**Special thanks to Kent Gibson-Sound Design for consultation and access to sound effects recordings.**

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**"Music is the expression of the movement of the waters, the play of curves described by changing breezes... Of all the arts, music is closest to nature — offers her the most subtle attraction..."**

Claude  
Debussy

*"For always..."*

*I hear lake water lapping  
with low sounds by the shore..."*

*William Butler Yeats (quoted by Griffes in "The Lake at Evening")*

*"The water that I shall give him shall become in him a fountain of water springing up into eternal life."*

*St. John 4:14 [quoted by Liszt in "The Fountains of the Villa d'Este"]*

*"Shimmering lights,  
As though the Aurora's  
Wild polar fires  
Flashed in thy  
happy bubbles,  
Died in thy foam."*

*William Sharp  
[quoted by Griffes  
in "The Fountain  
of the Acqua  
Paola"]*



**According to an old Breton legend, the Cathedral of Ys was engulfed in the fourth or fifth century, but could be seen, emerging from the sea, just at sunrise.**

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"...I thought I heard a vague harmony in my sleep,  
and near me a murmur like the singing of a sad and  
tender voice.

"Listen! Listen! It is I, Ondine, who sprinkles with drops  
of water your resonant window-panes lit by the pale rays of  
the moon; while there, the Lady of the Castle, in a black  
gown, is gazing from her balcony at the lovely starlit night  
and the beautiful sleeping lake.

"Each wave is a water sprite swimming with the current,  
and each current is a path that leads to my palace, and my  
palace is built of water at the bottom of the lake, in a triangle  
of fire, earth and air.

"Listen! Listen! My father dips a branch of green alder  
into the bubbling water, and my sisters caress with their  
arms of foam the fresh islands of grasses, water lilies and  
irises, or laugh at the frail and bearded weeping-willow  
fishing with a line.

"Having finished her murmured song, she begged me  
to place her ring on my finger, to show that I was married  
to an Ondine, and to go with her to her palace to be king  
of the lakes.

"And when I replied that I loved a mortal woman, she  
was angry and sulky; she cried a little, then, with a burst of  
laughter, she disappeared into a shower of drops that fell  
in pale streams on my blue window pane."

*Aloysius Bertrand, [quoted by Ravel in "Ondine"]*

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Mastering: *Jeff Mee*

Photos: *Harry Pack*

Creative Direction: *Harry Pack, Tri-Arts and Associates*

Graphics: *Mark Evans*





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P.O. Box 343, Sonoma, California 95476-9998  
(800) 364-0645 • (707) 996-3844  
*contactus@delosmusic.com • www.delosmusic.com*  
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