Review - Border Crossings The Flutist Quarterly - Spring 2011

The musicians/composers on *Border Crossings* clearly have traveled far and wide, physically and/or sonically, to create this captivating new disc. *Border Crossings* is the result of guitarist Nathan Kolosko's and flutist Carl Dimow's interest in and experience with music from around the world. Listeners will hear elements from jazz, klezmer, Middle Eastern and Latin musical styles.

Three tracks are transcriptions of songs created by Baden Powell and vinicius de Moraes in the mid 1960's. The Afro Sambas present beautiful Latin/jazz sounding melodies that are inflected by Dimow's use of extended techniques. Each song has a programmatic title and the colors created by the flute and guitar help to musically represent each program.

Kolosko was inspired by the John Steinbeck novel *The Pearl* when he wrote *Nayarit* in 2003. This work demonstrates, as expressed in the liner notes, Kolosko's interest in "eliminating boundaries between artistic disciplines." His goal in writing this piece was to create the music that is described in *The Pearl*. Beautifully constructed folk-like melodies express a wide range of emotions that makes it possible for this work to be performed with or without the listener's knowledge of the book. Some of the most poignant moments here occur in the third movement, entitled Duerme, as the color of the guitar combines with the melancholy bass flute tone in harmonically heart-wrenching ways.

Dimow created his *Klezmer Suite* as a way to celebrate his tenure with the Casco Bay Tummlers klezmer band. The melodies elicit moods of joy and sadness and are overall a celebration of life. Dimow "klezmerizes" his conventional flute tone by bending pitches for musical emphasis and allows his sound to momentarily go out of focus for added sensuality. I especially appreciated the educational notes about the names of the rhythms and styles that I was hearing in each movement.

This disc presents an eclectic range of musical styles. The flute extended techniques are tastefully executed for musical purposes and the guitar colors are gorgeous. This CD will inspire many listeners to seek more world-influenced music!

Tess Miller