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Butterflies

Track 1. ***Butterflies*** formed the nucleus for this CD, and was composed by me in the summer of 2000. It is a reflection of my outlook on life!

This piece nicely segues to....

Track 2. ***Skylark***, one of Hoagy Carmichael's many classics.

For a more modern twist, you then get the easy-listening version of

Track 3. ***Dancing Queen***. Wow - ABBA never sounded quite like THIS!

The vagaries of life and love enable one to truly appreciate:

Track 4. ***Send in the Clowns***.

In a lighter mood, expressing romantic confidence and gait, is

Track 5. ***They Can't Take That Away From Me***

which spells G-e-r-s-h-w-i-n through and through.

Track 6. ***We've Only Just Begun*** is specially dedicated to the memory of Barb Gatewood, Ainsworth High School Class of '72 (Flint, Michigan). Barb was a spirited friend whose faith never left her. I'm sure her harp playing is entertaining the angels daily!

Continuing on in this vein is another one of my originals:

Track 7. ***Unfoldment***. It represents God's gentle revealing of good in our lives. If ever I've regretted a lost or botched opportunity (that is, I "missed the boat" and how!), my Dad would remind me that God always has lots and lots of boats - coming and going !

In life, we not only have career opportunities come and go, but precious friends arrive and depart, leaving their imprint on our thinking and lives.

Track 8. ***Sailing*** is dedicated to my dear friend Bob McKibbin, who passed on in 2001. "McBob" was a cherished friend, confidante and an avid supporter of my music. His love, smiles and unflagging optimism are missed... but then, I realize he's only "Sailing....sailing away" for a brief time.

Another important part of Love's expression in my life was my grandmother.

Track 9. ***Lara's Theme*** from Dr. Zhivago is in memory of dear "GG". See if this rendition doesn't make you think of balalaikas strumming and that memory-etching "ice castle" scene from the movie!

Track 10. ***In the Corner of My Heart***, another original piano piece, was inspired by a poem I composed in the wee hours of the morning - the best time for creativity! This excerpt will give you an idea of how I was feeling at that moment.

*In the corner of my heart
There will always be a place for you
To hide so safe inside of me
So I'll never have to set you free.
Stay, stay stay with me
In the corner of my heart.*

Track 11. ***Somewhere in Time*** will always remind me of the six months spent playing piano at The Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, Michigan, the location for the film of this piece's name. Scenery and romance at its best!

And finally, to conclude this musical potpourri, I leave you with this inquiry:

Track 12. ***How Do You Keep the Music Playing?*** A vexing question for all lovers, perhaps, but hey, I make the music happen, so I don't worry too much!

Many thanks to my dear parents, now passed away since 2012. **Eileen and Bob Offenhauser** always encouraged my talent, paid for all of those lessons, and took me to all of those recitals and competitions. Then there's all of that love they showered upon me, too!

Also, much gratitude to **Lisa Pressman** for prodding me along or propping me up, and for her dear husband **Tim Ponzek** – what a great set of ears!

I know you'll enjoy this CD, so do let me know your thoughts and comments at PreludeMusic@juno.com

Other Acknowledgements and Credits:

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