

to Roger and Karen  
 for Roger's 70th birthday  
 Like A Small Waterwheel - A Song of An Old Woman  
 for flute with soprano  
 or for alto flute with alto (transpose fourth lower)

Poem by NAGASE Kiyoko  
 translated by Takako U. Lento

TAKAHASHI Yuji

flute no tonguing breathe  
 dolce  
 pp > pp  
 mp  
 pp > pp  
 mp  
 flute  
 FL.

no vibrato  
 indefinite pitch  
 Grant me a spray of flowers to awaken me  
 voice loose coordination  
 fl.  
 FL.

to open my shriveled eyes Grant me beautiful full blossoms

mezza voce solo  
 pp  
 flute  
 FL.

I have been working like a small waterwheel in the shade of a hill,

dream- ing beyond the distant sky

I simply splash water, and never

had a single bud Now no one even remembers the waterwheel

overgrown with moss with no flower of its own with no fruit of its own that

it wanted so much.

fl. solo pp

But from inside the wind comes the carefree laughter of a lass

Oh please, grant me a spray of flowers to awaken me please

as one might sprinkle sd-ke, sprinkle blossoms all over me.

2004.01.24

*LIKE A SMALL WATERWHEEL —  
A SONG OF AN OLD WOMAN*      *by NAGASE Kiyoko (1906-1995)*

*Grant me a spray of flowers to awaken me  
to open my shriveled eyes  
Grant me beautiful full blossoms.  
I have been working like a small waterwheel in the shade of a hill,  
dreaming beyond the distant sky  
I simply splash water, and  
never had a single bud  
Now no one even remembers the waterwheel  
overgrown with moss  
with no flower of its own, with no fruit of its own  
that it wanted so much*

*But from inside the wind comes  
the carefree laughter of a lass  
Oh, please, grant me a spray of flowers to awaken me  
Please, as one might sprinkle sake,  
sprinkle blossoms all over me.*

*translated by Takako U. Lento*