

sky-cut

For my mother Jale Huriye Birdal,
we wrote this story together.

Sky-Cut (for solo cello and voice, 2015)

"Menekşe buldum derede
Sordum evleri nerede
Üç beş güzel bir arada
Dilber dilber canım dilber"

— Turkish folk song

Sterntropfen (for solo cello and voice, 2019)

"Liebes Kind
Dein Lächeln
spricht Unaussprechliches
Dein Lächln
weint Sterntropfen
Erlösung ist nahe
Dein Lächln
meint Liebe"

— Julius Berger

Turkish version

"Söylenmezi söylüyor
Saf sevgiyle gülüyor
Kurtuluş çok yakında
Yıldız damlası ağlıyor"

— Ayşe Deniz Birdal

6 Miniatures (for solo cello and voice, 2020)

"When my blindfold falls down
I will leave it
The strongest will find me
They will wear it"

— Ayşe Deniz Birdal

Amnesiac Bells (for 4 cellos and voice, 2019)

Kamber Hanım (for solo cello and voice, 2019)

"Kamber Hanım, Kamber Hanım, yelpip koyay mu?
Yelpe güçnün sayesinde süyüp koyay mu?
Davancının yolu kattık, tarbuzi tatlık
Yelpe güçnün sayesinde süyüp koyay mu?"

— Uyghur Folk Song

Control (for solo cello and voice, 2020)

"There are 4 stairs to the warehouse
One's bringing me to you
There is only one street to the red-light house
That's where I met you

Dancing on pool tables
With the shadow of curiosity
I saw lust on unfamiliar faces
Here you have never met me

The red of your national anthem
Hidden in the color of my lipstick
As the amnesiac bells ring
Suppression finds its victim

There is a stairway in the center theater
That's where I will find you
The eyeholes of every door I touch
Are watching me, watching you"

— Ayşe Deniz Birdal

Tautropfen (for 4 cellos, 2019)

Dedicated to Hyun-Jung Berger and Julius Berger

The Ivy (for solo cello and voice, 2020)

"When that day comes, will I remember?
Will I remember this moment?
Waking up to the pitch black sun
I'll be the same!"

— Ayşe Deniz Birdal

Beatrix of Joy (for solo cello and voice, 2021)

Ave, beata Giovanna Maria Bonomo

"Blessed Beatrix of Joy
You give me the faith with your resilience
Mary of the Mount Ortigara
You grace me with beatific visions

When the dark night of the soul falls
When I need a guiding hand
You pull me up with no hesitation
Oh holy water, Mary of the Sea

In the dust of my city of ruins
Our lady remains standing with bliss
Sacramental Joan of Sorrows
Blessed Beatrix of Joy"

— Ayşe Deniz Birdal

Recorded, edited and mixed in PCM 352.8kHz 64bit by Brendon Heinst.

This CD was produced with the support of the Anner Bijlsma Award and the Cello Biennale Amsterdam. Using the prize money from the 2018 Anner Bijlsma Award, cello phenomenon Giovanni Sollima set up an intensive development program for four young international cellists – Ayşe Deniz Birdal (Turkey), Maya Fridman (Russia), Abel Selaoe (South Africa) and Chiara Trentin (Italy). They all were looking to become far more than just soloists playing the standard repertoire. Sollima went with them in search of their musical identity. Who did they want to become in the world of music? What did they want to create? What did they want to convey to their audiences? This cd is the result of the journey MAYA/AYSE/CHIARA made during this project.

CELLO
BIENNALE
AMSTERDAM

ayşe deniz birdal