



ELIA CMIRAL
**TWO SUITES FOR PAN FLUTE
AND ORCHESTRA**

GHEORGHE ZAMFIR
SOLO PAN FLUTE

CZECH SINFONIETTA
CONDUCTOR RADEK BABORÁK

SIX STORIES FROM AN ENCHANTED GARDEN
SINFONIA CONCERTANTE FOR PAN FLUTE AND ORCHESTRA

ELIA CMIRAL

TWO SUITES FOR PAN FLUTE AND ORCHESTRA

SIX STORIES FROM AN ENCHANTED GARDEN

29:31

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| 1. I. Meeting Chloe | 2:54 |
| 2. II. Garden's Seclusions | 6:24 |
| 3. III. Hidden Lagoon | 3:52 |
| 4. IV. Walk in the Garden | 6:09 |
| 5. V. Tiny Pieces of Memories | 2:51 |
| 6. VI. Don't Say Goodbye | 7:01 |

SINFONIA CONCERTANTE FOR PAN FLUTE AND ORCHESTRA 35:30

- | | |
|-------------------------|------|
| 7. I. Allegro | 6:26 |
| 8. II. Andante | 6:14 |
| 9. III. Scherzo | 6:05 |
| 10. IV. Largo | 7:19 |
| 11. V. Allegro maestoso | 9:26 |

TOTAL TIME: 64:03

GHEORGHE ZAMFIR

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CONDUCTOR RADEK BABORÁK

Gheorghe Zamfir and I met whilst collaborating on a short film for which I composed the score. Gheorghe played solo on a few tracks. Prior to our meeting, I was already familiar with his music and enchanted by the magical sound of his pan flute. I was thrilled to have him contribute to my score.

During this period, our connection deepened, with a shared appreciation for musical aesthetics and a mutual love for emotionally resonant melodies. Our joint understanding continued after the completion of the film, evolving into a cross-continental friendship — myself in Los Angeles, US, and Gheorghe in Bucharest, Romania.

Later, I accepted his invitation to visit him in Bucharest, where he generously shared various pan flute techniques and instrument secrets. Inspired by our deepening bond and his virtuosity, spirituality, and humanity, I proposed writing original compositions for him. Gheorghe loved the idea, and within approximately 12 months, amidst my film scoring responsibilities, I completed both suites. Six months later, with the inspiring support of my friend and composer Zuzana Michlerova, we fully orchestrated both scores.

Subsequently, I created demos of both suites in my Los Angeles studio using computer samples. Gheorghe, impressed with the music, suggested a few changes to enhance the virtuosity of the solo parts. He recorded all his pan flute solos in Bucharest and sent them to me for inclusion in the final version with the orchestra.

With the commitment of the Czech conductor Radek Baborák and his Czech Sinfonietta, we recorded the suites in the renowned Sono studio in the Czech Republic over five days. Following this, over the next 10 months, I edited and mixed the recordings, combining Gheorghe's solos with the expertise of mixer Jim T. Hill in Los Angeles.

The journey from the inception of both suites to their completion, marked by highs and lows, was a long and intensely emotional experience for me — both in music and in my personal life. During this time, I felt detached from normal daily life, living solely with my suites, days and nights alike.

Finally, the album is complete and presented here for your enjoyment. I would like to share with you my musical journey and fantasy with Gheorghe Zamfir's pan flute.

The pan flute holds a significant place in Romanian folk music, with Gheorghe Zamfir pioneering flute techniques in the '80s, elevating it to a concert level worldwide. In the hands of Zamfir, the pan flute becomes an instrument equal to traditional orchestral instruments, offering endless expressive colours and technical capabilities for playing modern music.

Surprisingly, there is a lack of large original compositions for the pan flute. Therefore, writing two original compositions for this instrument and a modern orchestra is a revolutionary and groundbreaking project, providing justice to the pan flute and offering future players a challenging musical and technical work.

A suite of six movements for solo pan flute and chamber orchestra, **Six Stories From an Enchanted Garden** is based on themes from a short film, significantly extended thematically. The suite is a dream-like fantasy or fairytale where I visited an enchanted garden in my dreams and shared little stories and moments with a beautiful girl in various places within the garden. I am narrating the stories of all these little stops, moments, and feelings with my music.

The movements feature contrasting moods and forms, describing imaginative places and expressing the feelings we experienced at each place where we stopped while walking through the garden, as I remember it from my dreams. The names of the movements correspond to the

places we stopped in my dreams — from the first movement when we met to the last where I pleaded with her not to say goodbye. The pan flute is a perfect solo instrument for this score with its magical, sometimes melancholic, dreamlike, and airy sound. Zamfir perfectly understood my stories, and his interpretation of my music is magical.

The **Sinfonia Concertante for Pan Flute and Orchestra** consists of five movements. In addition to a traditional symphony orchestra, it incorporates pre-recordings of guitars, mandolins, dulcimers, autoharp, and various hand percussion instruments.

When I decided to write this extensive score, I was driven by the persuasion that the pan flute, in the hands of a Master, could play as a soloist on an equal footing with any other orchestral instrument. I envisioned the possibilities when Zamfir introduced me to the instrument's large palette of techniques, which I incorporated into the solo part. It turned out that, at some moments, the solo is extremely challenging to play, aiming to demonstrate that the pan flute has a vast range of fantastic expressions and colours, making it a capable solo instrument.

Another idea for this score is to place the pan flute within the contemporary orchestra, incorporating extended techniques, modern rhythms, and harmonies. For this score, I chose the Concerto Grosso form, with a traditional sonata structure for the five movements — fast-slow-scherzo-slow-finale

Both compositions are dedicated to Gheorghe Zamfir.

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This project wouldn't have been possible without the support of several people, and I am grateful for their often unexpected help. Special thanks to **Zuzana Michlerova** for inspiration, orchestration, patience, and understanding; **Mirela Cotofana** and **Nicoleta Zamfir** for their endless help and support; **John Aglialoro** for his generous help; **Radek Baborák** and his orchestra for interpreting my score faithfully; the **Sono studio team** for their support; **Jim T. Hill** for his excellent mix; **David Federman** for additional orchestration; **Andrei Kerestely** for the flute recording; and **Madla Hruza** for her artistic album design; **Mark Hartt-Palmer** of Willowhayne Records and **John Cronin** of Music & Media Consulting for their tremendous support in releasing this album.

Finally, heartfelt thanks to my mom for her love and memories of the tender time we spent listening to the suites together in Prague.

A very special thanks to **Gheorghe Zamfir** for his tremendous inspiration, artistic and emotional support, and immeasurable interpretation of my music, especially for his dear friendship.



Photo: Zuzka Bönisch

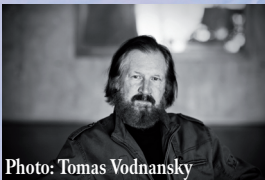


Photo: Tomas Vodnansky

Award-winning composer **Elia Cmiral** has built his reputation with over 70 film scores to his credit. In addition to his success in film composition, he has ventured into concert music and directed his first short film, incorporating his own score. His musical language seamlessly combines contemporary electronics with a modern orchestra, employing cutting-edge technology and production to create evocative and melodic themes.



Gheorghe Zamfir is a pioneer and virtuoso in pan flute playing, an instrument with a historical lineage dating back some 3,000 years. Zamfir has elevated the technique to the highest possible level, earning global recognition as a world-renowned artist with over a hundred gold and platinum records and countless concerts worldwide.

Composed and Produced by Elia Cmiral

Executive Producer: John Agliodoro

Album Producers: Elia Cmiral & Mark Hartt-Palmer

Orchestrations: Elia Cmiral, Zuzana Michlerová and David Federman

Music Preparation: Dominik Svoboda

Recorded in Sono Recording Studios, Prague, Czech Republic on 1st-4th December 2021

Recording Engineering: Pavel Karlík & Adam Karlík

Studio Manager: Karolína Karlíková

Booth Reader: Sylvia Stejskalová

Contractor: Kateřina Klimánková

Pan Flute recorded in Midi Sounds Studio, Bucharest, Romania

Recording Engineering: Andrei Kerestely

Mixing: Jim T. Hill at Hill Studios, Los Angeles, California, USA

Mastering: Mark Hartt-Palmer

Composer's Assistants: Orlando Perez Rosso, Lucas Fehring & Santiago Amezquita

Album Art & Design: Madla Hruza

Booklet Design: Willowhayne Records

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