

English translation of the songs from the CD 'A Woman Alone' from Shandiz Ensemble. The songs are based on poems of the Iranian poetess Forugh Farrokhzad. The lyrics were translated from Persian by Sahand Sahebdivani and edited by Jennifer Arcuni.

track 1

And this is me
A woman alone
On the threshold of a cold season
At the beginning of understanding the filthy existence of the earth
And the simple and sad despair of the sky.

track 2

Maybe the truth was those two young hands
Buried beneath the continual falling of snow

And next year,
When spring and the sky behind the window
Sleep together
And in her body
Sprout
Green fountains of light stems

It will blossom, o beloved,
O unique beloved,
Let us believe in the beginning of the cold season.

track 3

Until when should one go
From one place to another

I cannot, cannot keep searching for
Love or a beloved
Every time
Were it so that we were two swallows
Who would travel their whole lives

From one spring to another.

track 4

Look how the sadness
In my eye
Is melting drop by drop
How my black defiant shadow
Is enslaved in the hand of the sun
My entire sky bursts
With shooting stars
Look!
You rise and
The sun spills its light.

track 5

Come with me
To that star which burns
Thousands and thousands of years
Away
From the soil's frost
And earth's absurd measurements
And where no one
Fears the night.

track 6

In the skillful embrace of a man
One can be healthy and beautiful and female
With a body like a leather tarp
And two big hard breasts
In the bed of a drunkard
A madman
A tramp
One can befoul the innocence of love
More than this, oh, yes,
More than this

One can sit silently
Stare at the smoke of a cigarette for hours
Stare at the shape of a cup
At a discolored flower on a rug
At an imagined line on a wall

With stiff fingers one can
Draw back the curtains and see
It is raining hard in the alleyway
And a child holding colored kites is standing in the archway
One can remain still
Beside the curtain, blind and deaf
One can shout
With a voice very unreal and alien: "I love!"

One can kneel for a lifetime
With a bowed head at a cold shrine
One can see god in an unknown tomb
One can obtain faith with worthless coins
One can shrivel in the chambers of a mosque
Like an old mullah
One can be like a wind-up doll
Who sees the world through glass eyes
In her broad-clothed box
With a body stuffed with straw
She can sleep for years there
Wrapped in lace and sequins
And with every dirty touch of a hand
Shout without reason
And say: "Oh...I'm so happy."

track 7

All that we should have lost we've lost
We started our journey without a light
But the moon, that kind female, was always there.

track 8

No one is thinking of the flowers

No one is thinking of the fish
No one wants to believe the garden is dying
That the heart of the garden is swollen under the sun
That its mind is gradually emptying of its green memories.

track 9

I am naked
Naked
Like the silence between tender words
And my wounds
Have all been caused by love
By love.

track 10

In darkness
I called out to you
It was silent and there was a breeze
That moved the curtain

In the inconsolable sky
A star was shining
A star was going
A star was dying

I called out to you

I held my whole being
In my hand
Like a cup of milk

The blue gaze of the moon
Grazed the glass of the windows and
A sad song rose like smoke

From the city of crickets
Sliding like smoke
Up the surface of the windows

There, the entire night
In my chest
Someone was panting in despair

Someone was rising
Someone desired you
Two cold hands pushed the person back

There, the entire night
From dark branches
Sadness was dripping

Someone had lost herself
Someone was calling out to you
The sky's wreckage fell on someone

My small tree was in love with the wind
A homeless wind
Where is it, the house of the wind?
Where is it, the house of the wind?

track 11

I have no regrets

It's as if my heart flows on the other side of time
Life will repeat my heart

And the dandelion seed that
Floats on the lakes of the wind
Will repeat me
That flower
Will repeat me
I have no regrets
Oh beloved, talk to me
About another me
Whom you find in the
Cold streets of the night
With these eyes
That are in love

And remember me, in her sorrowed kiss
On the kind wrinkles
Under your eyes.

track 12

My heart is sad
My heart is sad
I go to the balcony
And run my fingers along
The stretched skin of night
The lights of relationship are out.

track 13

Oh ... imprisoned voice,
does the grandeur of your despair
from anywhere in this wretched night
ever make a tunnel towards the light?

track 14

In a room the size of loneliness
My heart the size of love

Is looking at the simple pretexts for its happiness
At the exquisite withering of flowers in a vase

And the seedling you planted
In our garden

At the singing of canaries
Who sing the size of a window

This is my share
This is my share

My share is the sky taken
Away by the drawing of curtains

My share is descending
Abandoned old stairs and converging with
Something in decay and strangeness

My share is a sad stroll
In the garden of memories

And to die of sadness of
A voice that says to me
"I love your hands"

I plant my hands in the garden
I will grow,
I know,
I know.