Southern Cross University
ePublications@SCU

School of Arts and Social Sciences

2006

Flame

Michael Francis Hannan
Southern Cross University

Publication details
Hannan, MF 2006, *Flame,* CD cover annotations for Zephyr commissioned by Origin Music Group, Sydney, NSW.

ePublications@SCU is an electronic repository administered by Southern Cross University Library. Its goal is to capture and preserve the intellectual output of Southern Cross University authors and researchers, and to increase visibility and impact through open access to researchers around the world. For further information please contact epubs@scu.edu.au.

Flame
Zephyr
Origin OR 080

The creative force behind Zephyr is composer and performer Elizabeth Henshaw. She has combined her classical music background with an ambient/world/spiritual aesthetic to develop a sound which has been successful on the popular classics segments on ABC and BBC radio and other media. Although it is easy to critique Henshaw's derivative approach to composition, some of her work has genuine inspirational appeal. 'Peace Into Our Hands', the opening track is the pick of the tracks on *Flame*. An ecstatic vocal melody is accompanied by a rich bed of modal harmonies and a moving cello solo. Henshaw has assembled a set of compositional procedures that are distinctive to her: textures of string pads, keyboard ostinati and light drum programming combine with hymn-like melodies that also have a Celtic lilt to them. The lyrics, some composed by Kate Henshaw and other collaborators, have a spiritual leaning and some are scriptural appropriations. In my view, the songs with drum programming are less artistically successful than the ones without.