



# Das Gläserne Meer - THE GLASSING SEA

A Narratorio for String Quintet and Voices

Text, Concept, Direction: tauchgold

Composition: Cathy Milliken

Length of the performance: 90 minutes

**THE GLASSING SEA** aims at creating a contemplative space for reflecting on how human endeavours truly can succeed. Based on first hand narratives, the performance tells the (fictitious) stories of five musicians from different countries and cultures who have formed a string quintet in present day Berlin.

United through their love of music, the quintet's members – men and women from five different nations – all play and perform together, regardless of differences in gender, culture, religion or ancestry. But the musicians also share a common theme in their personal histories: whether due to world politics or religious faith, the generation of their parents or grandparents had suffered displacement and upheaval.

Not long ago, any European would have considered this as merely part and parcel of a dark history. Now, in our own era, peaceful co-existence once again is under threat.

As a variation on the sacred "oratorio" theme, the performance is conceived as a "narratorio" – a concertante narration of secular stories. It is inspired by Israeli artist Dani Karavan's impressive art installation "Passagen," which is located in Spain's coastal village Porbou. It is a memorial for Walter Benjamin (1892–1940), who had committed suicide there while fleeing the Nazis. The artist engraved on glass a quote that was translated into five languages from the philosopher's famously unfinished final work: "Passagen" ("Passages").

***„It is more difficult to honour the memory of the anonymous than that of the renowned.  
Historical construction is devoted to the memory of the anonymous.“***

For further information please contact:

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