

LOON LAKE LIVE

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

About the composer:

Lydia Busler is a professional horn player, composer, and performance clinician. She has performed with Boston Symphony Orchestra, New York City Ballet, and Rome Festival Opera among others. Ms. Busler has been recognized as an esteemed composer, performing artist, and clinician in the United States and abroad.

Lydia's compositions are performed and recorded by musicians around the world. In honor of the 2011 Year of the Vermont Composer, Lydia was awarded by the Consortium of Vermont Composers for the war-time opera *One Way In*, and by the International Horn Society Meir Rimon Commissioning Fund for *Lanterns*. In the same year, Lydia's vocal/instrumental folk work *Thirteen Feathers and Thirteen Stones* was performed at the Vermont Statehouse for the International Council of Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers.

For all you horn nerds out there, she plays a Lewis and Duerk x5 horn and is a Siegfried's Call Artist. Her works are published by Cimarraon and by the Westleaf Edition, and you can learn more about her at her website lydialowerybusler.com.

About the piece:

Appalachia has been performed and recorded by multiple musicians, and reimagined for stage and video as well. Our own Debra Sherrill recently recorded it for Chamber Music Charleston in addition to Loon Lake Live. It is a wonderful expression of the power, grace, and beauty of the French horn as a versatile instrument. In this solo piece we hear calling gestures, languid melodic contouring, rhythmic excitement, and an exploration of the full pitch range. It's a piece of music that can be listened to from multiple points of view with a different response each time. Enjoy Debra Sherrill's rendition of Lydia Busler's *Appalachia*, recorded at her home during quarantine, and with images curated by Mel Aman.

About the performer:

Debra Sherrill-Ward, French horn, is the proud founder and director of the Charleston Horn Camp. She is the Principal Horn of Chamber Music Charleston, the North Charleston Pops, and plays 3rd horn for the Savannah Philharmonic and the Hilton Head Symphony. During the summers she plays for the St. Augustine Music Festival and Loon Lake Live. In May 2018, she will be a featured artist for the Musica En Segura Festival in Spain. Before moving to the Lowcountry of South Carolina, Debra held the positions of Associate Principal Horn of the Barcelona Symphony and Principal Horn of the South Dakota Symphony. Debra studied with Froydis Ree Wekre in Oslo, Norway, Jerome Ashby at the Juilliard School, Erik Ralske at the Manhattan School of Music and Roger Collins at Western Illinois University.

