

## DOLCI BY THE BAY CONCERT NO. 15

*Dolci: Ted Rust, oboe; Viva Knight, piano*

### Sonata for Oboe and Piano (1962)

### Francis Poulenc (1899-1962)

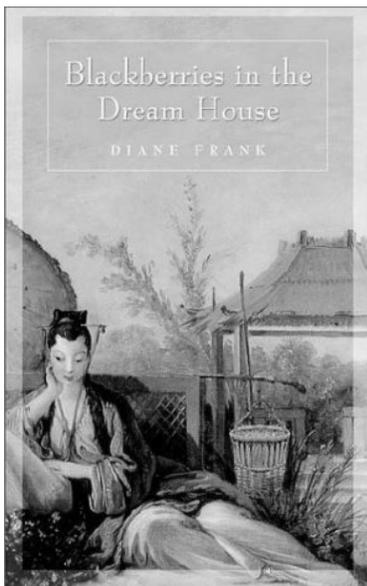
- I. *Élégie (peaceful, unhurried)*
- II. *Scherzo (joking, very agitated)*
- III. *Déploration (regretful, very calm)*



Francis Poulenc and Sergei Prokofiev were close friends as young men in Paris in the 1920s. Modernist, independent-minded and mostly unrecognized composers at the time, their friendship gave them a chance to play each other's unpublished manuscripts at a piano, sharing a great deal of wine, laughter and mutual encouragement. After Prokofiev returned to Russia in 1935, they corresponded but never again saw each other. When in mid-life Poulenc recovered his religious faith and gave up drinking, he shipped his last case of wine to Prokofiev. Prokofiev died in 1953, and Poulenc dedicated his *Oboe Sonata* to his friend's memory. It was his last composition. The sonata evokes Poulenc's grief and anger at the loss of his friend, memories of their good times together, and his newly recovered faith in the immortality of the human soul. Many motives of the sonata are quoted from Prokofiev's works, especially the ballet *Romeo and Juliet*.

### Filled with Moonlight

### Philip Freihofner (1957- )



- I. *A dream within a stone*
- II. *Do not ask me to miss you*
- III. *Filled with moonlight*

*Filled with Moonlight* takes its inspiration from a novel: "Blackberries in the Dream House" by San Francisco poet and author Diane Frank. The novel, set in 19<sup>th</sup> century Japan, traces the growth of a young woman from a life of dependency as a geisha into self-reliance and fulfillment as an artist and musician. The first movement meditates on the end of her hopeless infatuation with a client. The second movement describes the painful departure of her calligraphy teacher, and the third suggests her blossoming of artistic energy and freedom. Dolci commissioned this piece and gave its premiere on Trinity Chamber Concerts in Berkeley last December.