Texas Early Music Project Presents

Night Music!
Episode 2: January 24, 2021
with hosts Gitanjali Mathur & Danny Johnson

Texts & Translations

Lu Yehi (May It Be) & Naomi Shemer, 1973

Od yesh mifras lavan ba’ofek
Mul anan shachor kaved
Kol shenevakesh – Lu yehi.
There is still a white sail on the horizon
Opposite a heavy black cloud
All that we ask for – May it be.

Ve’im bacholonot ha’erev
Or nerot hachag ro’ed -
Kol shenevakesh – Lu yehi.
And if in the evening windows
The light of the holiday candles flickers
All that we seek – May it be.

Lu Yehi, lu yehi, Ana, lu yehi
Kol shenevakesh – Lu yehi.
May it be, may it be, Please, may it be
All that we seek – May it be.

Ma kol anot ani shomei’a
Kol shofar ve kol tupim
Kol shenevakesh – Lu yehi.
What is the sound that I hear
The cry of the shofar and the sound of drums
All that we ask for – May it be.

Lu tishama betoch kol eileh
Gam tefila achat mipi
Kol shenevakesh – Lu yehi.
If only there can be heard within all this
One prayer from my lips also
All that we seek – May it be.

Lu yehi…
May it be…

Betoch sh’chuna ktana mutzelet
Bait kat im gag adom
Kol shenevakesh – Lu yehi.
Within a small, shaded neighborhood
Is a small house with a red roof
All that we ask for – May it be.

Zeh sof hakayitz, sof haderech
Ten lahem lashuv halom
Kol shenevakesh – Lu yehi.
This is the end of summer, the end of the path
Allow them to return safely here
All that we seek – May it be.

Lu yehi…
May it be…
Ve’im pit’om yizrach mei’ofelv  
Al rosheinu or kochav  
Kol shenevakesh – Lu yehi.

And if suddenly, rising from the darkness  
Over our heads, the light of a star shines  
All that we ask for – May it be.

Az ten shalva veten gam ko’ach  
Lechol eileh shenohav  
Kol shenevakesh – Lu yehi.

Then grant tranquility and also grant strength  
To all those we love  
All that we seek – May it be.

Lu yehi…  
May it be…

_Bashana haba’ah (In the year that will come)_  
☞ Nurit Hirsch, 1970; text by Ehud Manor

Bashana haba’ah,  
Neishev al hamirpeset  
V’nispur tzipurim nod’dot.

In the year that will come,  
We’ll sit on the porch  
And count migrating birds.

Y’ladim b’chufsha  
Y’sachaku tofeset  
Bein habayit l’vein hasadot.

Children on vacation  
Will play tag  
Between the house and fields.

Od tir’eh, od tir’eh  
Kama tov yihiyeh  
Bashana bashana haba’ah.

Wait and see, wait and see  
How much good there will be  
In the year, in the year that will come.

Anavim adumim  
Yav’shilu ad ha’erev  
V’yug’shu ts’nim lashulehan.

Red grapes  
Will ripen till the evening  
And will be served chilled to the table.

V’ruchot r’duimim  
Yi’su el eim haderech  
Itonim y’shanim v’anan.

And languid winds  
Will carry to the crossroads  
Old newspapers and a cloud.

Od tir’eh…  
Wait and see…

Bashana haba’ah,  
Nifros kapot yadayim  
Mul ha’or hanigar halavan.

In the year that will come,  
We will spread out our hands  
Towards the radiant light.

Anafa l’vana  
Tfros ka’or k’nafayim  
V’hashemesh tizrach b’tochan.

A white heron  
Like a light will spread her wings  
And within them the sun will rise.

Od tir’eh…  
Wait and see…