

Program Notes for Lizzy Lindsay

(taken from the program notes for *Breath of the Mountains: A Folk Suite*)

The description of what the composer of this Idaho Continental Harmony Project was encouraged to do was “to discover Idaho and reveal it to itself”. Although it seemed like somewhat of a daunting task, Linda Tutas Haugen began this process in August of 1999 with her first visit to Idaho. She met with many area residents and did much research of local history in the McCall Library archives. “It became apparent to me early into the process that I wanted to write about the beautiful land, the wonderful people that settled and still live on the land and their life experiences in coming to Idaho,” states Haugen. *Breath of the Mountains: A Folk Suite* premiered in July of 2000 by the McCall Chamber Chorale and Chamber Orchestra.

The fourth movement uses the Scottish folk song, *Lizzie Lindsay*, to represent the English speaking people that settled in this area. The setting of the chorus and verses builds in intensity throughout the movement as the story unfolds. The final verse, added by the composer ties in the previous movements by returning to the importance of the beauty of the land. “I chose to set this song and to include folk musicians in this last movement because of a magical moment that I had in McCall during my first visit,” writes Haugen. “I was invited to a jam session of folk musicians where I heard *Lizzie Lindsay* for the first time while the moon came up over a Ponderosa pine- filled ravine with the roaring Payette River below. It was truly wonderful.”