

The Pittsburgh
Camerata
Nancy Galbraith:
Sacred Songs
& Interludes
Pittsburgh
Camerata CD

CMU is also where professor Nancy Galbraith is chair of composition in the music department, but much of what this Pittsburgh resident created has been heard far beyond such hills and valleys—across oceans and many continents. It appears that such varied cultures have left their imprints on these marvelously colorful and appealing pieces. The folklike harmonies call for singing and the playing of flutes, percussion and keyboards to reflect indigenous scales and instrumentation, and also to enrich Hindu, Buddhist, Confucian, Tao, Islamic, Judaic and Christian texts. Galbraith says she celebrates diversity in a prayer for wholeness and peace. She has certainly done so, uniting human voices in sounds of serene contemplation and vibrant joy. The performances, directed by Rebecca Rollett, pulse with energy and float with beauty. (pittsburghcamerata.org)