

The Fisher of the James

by
Richard L. Rose



Libretto and Lead Sheets

Introduction

The Fisher of the James is a work of narrative music based on the Grimm Brothers' fairy tale, *The Fisher and his Wife*. Set in current time in Richmond, Virginia, the work tells the story of an unemployed inventor who fishes a treasure from the James River.

The musical score consists of lead sheets to guide improvisation. In other narrative music (See the *Afterword*.), I provide complete scores, but I perform this work in informal, improvised settings and encourage others to do the same.

Several "announcements" from Mashkinonge, the spirit-fish, are included. Like some of my other work, this song cycle is both a performance and a meditation on changing some of the habits of mind that put humans at odds with each other and their habitat.

Richard L. Rose
Richmond, VA
December 31, 2012