I had been wanting to collaborate with my dear friend, soprano Hila Plitmann, for quite some time. Then the Pandemic hit, and all of a sudden there was all this time available – time to write a song cycle for her! It didn’t take me a long time to determine that the texts I was looking for would have to have a connection with nature, one of my biggest inspirations for just about anything. Thanks to the internet I fairly quickly found four favorites by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Robert Frost, Henry David Thoreau and Edna St. Vincent Millay. The song cycle’s title *The Poetry of Nature* offered itself quite naturally.

Gernot Wolfgang

Santa Fe, March 2024