



Peter Scott Lewis New Music 'The Four Cycles' review:

"The music of San Francisco composer Peter Scott Lewis combines ingratiating surfaces — strong-boned tonal harmonies and melodic gracefulness — with secure structural underpinnings that keep everything logically in place. The results come through handsomely in this compilation of four song cycles of various hues and scales, all of them performed with delicacy and vigor. Two of the pieces are for vocal quartet (the aptly named New York Virtuoso Singers Quartet), and Lewis makes canny use of this textural resource — particularly in "The Changing Light," a group of Lawrence Ferlinghetti settings that capture the poet's spacious, muscular rhetoric and crisply turned lines. Even more arresting are the solo works, beginning with "Where the Heart Is Pure," a slimmed-down version of a 1993 work that sounds all the sleeker with just piano accompaniment; mezzo-soprano Christine Abraham and pianist Keisuke Nakagoshi bring out the music's vaulting pictorialism. But the tiny, sparkling gem here is "Three Songs From Ish River," a gorgeous and maddeningly brief triptych delivered superbly by soprano Susan Narucki and guitarist Colin McAllister. It's painful to arrive so quickly at the end."

Joshua Kosman, [San Francisco Chronicle](#), 2016