To Roger and Karen
for Roger's 70th birthday

Like a Small Waterwheel - A Song of An Old Woman
for flute with soprano
or for alto flute with alto (transposed to flute lower)

Poem by Nagase Kiyoko
translated by Takako U. Lento

Flute no tonguing breathe
Dolce

nezza voice

Voice

Grant me a spray of flowers to awaken me

Quasi gliess.

To open my shriveled eyes

Grant me beautiful full blossoms

I have been working like a small waterwheel in the shade of a hill,

Dreaming beyond the distant sky
I simply splash water, and never

had a single bud. Now

overgrown with moss, with no flower of its own, with no fruit of its own that

It wanted so much.

But from inside the wind

comes the carefree laugh of a Bass.
Oh please, grant me a spray of flowers to adorn me.

as one might sprinkle sake, sprinkle blossoms, all over me.
LIKE A SMALL WATERWHEEL —
A SONG OF AN OLD WOMAN  by NAGASE Kiyoko (1906-1995)

Grant me a spray of flowers to awaken me
to open my shriveled eyes
Grant me beautiful full blossoms.
I have been working like a small waterwheel in the shade of a hill,
dreaming beyond the distant sky
I simply splash water, and
never had a single bud
Now no one even remembers the waterwheel
overgrown with moss
with no flower of its own, with no fruit of its own
that it wanted so much

But from inside the wind comes
the carefree laughter of a lass
Oh, please, grant me a spray of flowers to awaken me
Please, as one might sprinkle sake,
sprinkle blossoms all over me.

translated by Takako U. Lento