

"2045: The Year Man Becomes Immortal?" by Toni Castells

July 2016 - London Premiere - Lyric Sheet

02 Gold

Music: Toni Castells / Lyrics: Native American Prayer

Soprano + Countertenor:

"O Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear me. I come before you, one of your children. I am small and weak. I need your strength and wisdom. Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset. Make my hands respect the things you have made, my ears sharp to hear your voice. Make me wise, so that I may know the things you have taught my people, the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock. I seek strength to fight my greatest enemy: myself. Make me ever ready to come to you with clean hands and straight eyes, so that when life fades as a fading sunset, my spirit may come to you without shame."

Chief Yellow Hawk - Native American Prayer

03 Slaves of Time

Music: Toni Castells / Lyrics: Toni Castells and excerpts from feature film "Troy" (2004) by Wolfgang Petersen and from "The Singularity is Near" (2013) documentary by Ray Kurzweil

Spoken Voice:

"Singularity is a future period when technological change will be so rapid, and its impact so profound, that every aspect of human life will be irreversibly transformed. Computers won't be these rectangular devices which we put in our pockets, they are going to be inside our bodies and brains and we are going to be a hybrid of biological and nonbiological intelligence. Technology feeds in itself and it gets faster and faster. In about 40 years the pace of change will be so astonishingly quick, that you won't be able to follow it, unless you enhance your own intelligence by merging with the intelligent technology we are creating." Ray Kurzweil

Soprano:

I'll tell you a secret, something they don't teach you in your temple:
The gods envy us. They envy us because we are mortal,
Because any moment may be our last.
Everything is more beautiful because we are doomed.

Countertenor:

But I thought that our love was eternal, that we were no slaves of time.
I'll tell you a secret, something they don't teach you in your temple:
We are gods.

Soprano and Countertenor:

If we are true our souls will live forever,
Only the vessel dies, never the traveller.
Everything is more beautiful because we are love.

Which one of us is speaking the truth?
If we are true our souls will live forever,
If we are not every moment will be our last.
Everything is more beautiful if we are doomed.

04 Pour 4 Personnes

Music: Toni Castells / Lyrics: Toni Castells and Alyne de Lille.

Choir:

You have everything, you have everything.
Release any doubt, release any doubt have faith.
Let it, let it flow, open up. Release any doubt, my child.
Breathe! Breathe! Breathe!
The answer is inside thee. The answer is inside thee.

Soprano:

Sometimes I have doubts, Through my mistakes I've lost things I loved.
Did I chose that path for me? Or you guide all my steps tenderly?

05 Nile Lilies

Music + Lyrics: Toni Castells

Soprano:

When death comes and you go, Nile Lilies will blossom.
When time comes and you go, I hope I'm near, I'm close.
When you walk to the light, just don't look back, you will be alright.

When night falls and you go, the heavens will falter.
And I hope you can hear my words so far unspoken.
When you walk to the light, just don't look back you will be alright.

When death comes and I go, I hope that my children,
Are near, are close, and with no words unspoken.

06 Saule

Music: Toni Castells / Lyrics: Toni Castells and excerpts from "2001: A Space Odyssey" (1968) by Stanley Kubrick.

Spoken Voice (Hal):

I am putting myself to the fullest possible use, which is all I think that any conscious entity can ever hope to do.
Queen, bishop, queen. Bishop takes queen. Knight takes bishop. Mate.
Thank you for a very enjoyable game.
Hal at "2001: A Space Odyssey" (1968) by Stanley Kubrick.

Spoken Voice:

Well, it's difficult to know what we are made of.
I suppose it's also difficult to know where we are going,
and also whether we have a purpose.

Choir:

You are made of light, Made of light, made of light.

08 Annie + 09 Irantzu

Music: Toni Castells

Lyrics: Excerpts from an interview with orthopaedic spine surgeon Dr. Mary Neal conducted with Robert Ricciardelli discussing her near-death experience when she drowned in 1999 while kayaking in the Los Rios region of southern Chile.

Spoken Voice:

"I'm not quite sure what to call them. I knew that I had known them as long as I existed, and I knew that they had known me and loved me as long as I existed. It was so joyfilled. And they were taking me down this exceptionally beautiful path, not only was exploding with beauty and colour but the absolute purity of God's love. I had no desire to return, I wasn't coming back. But it was profound because it was at that point that it became very clear to me how it can be true that God actually knows each one of us, loves each one of us as though we are the only one, and has an incredible plan for each one of us." Dr. Mary Neal

Choir:

Loves each one of us as though we are the only one. Each one of us.

10 The Mission

Music and Lyrics: Toni Castells

Soprano:

Is it me that you are looking for? Has my time arrived?
I knew that my days were numbered, like the stars in the night sky
that slowly fade with the sunrise.

Could I stay a little longer? Come back at first light, then take my life.
As a child I dreamt of things that I haven't lived, that I haven't found.
Is there still time? Is there time? Is there time? Is there time?

From heaven you gave me a mission to accomplish here on earth.
Did I maybe disappoint you? Is that why you take me away?

Could I stay a little longer? Come back at first light, then take my life.
As a child I dreamt of things that I haven't lived, that I haven't found.
Is there still time? Is there still time? Is there still time? Is there time?

My days have gone by thinking you'd never come.
But now that I meet my fate, the colours are just so bright.

11 Born Kings + 12 Diva

Music: Toni Castells

Lyrics: Toni Castells and Olivia Steele

Countertenor:

I dream of you in colors that don't exist.
In them you take my hand, rescuing me from the abyss.

Soprano:

You gave, you gave me everything that's running through my veins,
running wild through eternity. We were born kings of all mankind,
my kingdom is your mind, never ending land.
As there is love and there is life, there always was a time for us.

Soprano + Countertenor:

As there is love and there is life
There's always been a time for us.
Our love, envy of the gods, they've called your time.
Have mercy, mercy, do not take his life, please, please, spare his life.
In colors that don't exist, in them you take my hand.
Rescuing me from the abyss, in them you take my hand.

Soprano:

I dream of you in colors that don't exist.
In them you take my hand, rescuing me from the abyss.
Rescuing me from the abyss, in them you take my hand,

Choir:

Love...life...was...There always was a time for us.
Our love, envy of the gods, they've called your time. Mercy! Mercy!

13 Capsule 99

Music: Toni Castells

Lyrics: "About Death" by Alan Watts, British-born American philosopher, writer, and speaker, best known as an interpreter and populariser of Eastern philosophy for a Western audience.

Spoken Voice:

"But what worries us is that, when we are dead, there could be nothing at all forever. As if that was something to worry about. Before you were born it was the same nothing at all forever and yet you happened. And if you happened once, you could happen again. So, I reason that if I go back, when I'm dead, to the state where I was before I was born, couldn't I happen again? You know, what has happened once can very well happen again. If it happened once, it's extraordinary, and is not really very much more extraordinary if it happened all over again."
Alan Watts

14 Foolish Child

Music: Toni Castells

Lyrics: Toni Castells derived from excerpts from Gary Jennings's book "Aztec" (1980)

Soprano and Choir:

Foolish child I thought death meant only dying,
no bliss through eternity.
Those slain in the service of a mighty God,
Were assured of a life everlasting in the most resplendent afterworld.
Foolish child I thought death meant only dying,
no bliss through eternity.

But consider this: even the most devout Christian martyr,
Dying in the certainty of reaching Heaven,
He'll never again know the caress of the moonlight
Dappling his face as he walks beneath the rustling cypress trees.

15 Coda

Music: Toni Castells

Lyrics: Ray Kurzweil on "The Singularity is Near" (2005)

Choir:

"We are looking forward to a time where we can backup our brains. Our brains will be largely non-biological, so we will be basically machines. We can stop ageing, we can live indefinitely...All of our biological bodies are limited and we need to deal with overcoming these limitations with one means or another." Ray Kurzweil

16 Love Overcometh All Things

Music: Toni Castells

Lyrics: Seance by Dr. Cosmo Lang, recorded in 1967 by George Woods and Betty Green during a session conducted by direct voice medium Leslie Flint.

Spoken Voice:

"And I say to you, there is only one way in which the world can be saved from itself, and that is by the realization that love overcometh all things. That those who have gone before you are concerned for you, each one. But we come back to your world endeavoring to break down the barriers that you have created by foolishness and ignorance over the centuries, and we knock at your door, hoping and praying that you will open just a little, that we may enter therein and save you from yourselves." Dr. Cosmo Lang

Choir:

Love overcomes all things.
There is only one way in which the world can be saved from itself,
And that is by the realization that love overcomes all things.
There is only one way, love overcomes all things.

17 Passing on the Torch

Music: Toni Castells

Lyrics: Alan Watts on 'Acceptance of Death and The Meaning of Life'

Spoken Voice:

"It's a far more amusing arrangement for nature to continue the process of life through different individuals than it is always with the same individual, because as each new individual approaches life, life is renewed and one remembers how fascinating the most ordinary everyday things are to a child, because they see them all as marvelous because they see them all in a way that is not related to survival and profit. When we get to thinking of everything in terms of survival and profit value, as we do then the shapes of scratches on the floor cease to have magic, and most things in fact cease to have magic. So therefore in the course of nature once we have ceased to see magic in the world anymore, we are no longer fulfilling nature's game of being aware of itself. There's no point in it anymore, and so we die, and so something else comes to birth which gets an entirely new view. It is therefore not natural for us to wish to prolong life indefinitely. But we live in a culture where it has been rubbed into us, in every conceivable way, that to die is a terrible thing. And that is a tremendous disease from which our culture in particular suffers." Alan Watts