

15. The fool on the hill

John Lennon and Paul McCartney, arr. Jonathan Rathbone

*We need to acquire wisdom to guide us in
how to stop our destruction of the earth*

"The fool on the hill" was written and sung by Paul McCartney. It is about a man who is considered a fool by others, but whose foolish demeanour is actually an indication of wisdom. Alistair Taylor, in the book *Yesterday*, reports a mysterious incident involving a man who inexplicably appeared near him and McCartney during a walk on Primrose Hill and then disappeared again, soon after McCartney and Taylor had conversed about the existence of God; this allegedly prompted the writing of the song.

16. Brother Sun, Sister Moon

Donovan, arr. Sarita Hauptfleisch
Soloists: Classina Cornelius & Engela Smit

*When we stop being preoccupied with our own selfish misery,
we will again see the glory around us*

In the early 1970s, Scottish singer-songwriter Donovan agreed to write and record songs for the English version of Franco Zeffirelli's *Brother Sun, Sister Moon* (1972).



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GALA CONCERTS 2009 GALAKONSERTE

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Where will the children play?

Waar gaan die kinders speel?

"The earth does not belong to man; man belongs to the earth."

CHIEF SEATTLE

Uit hoflikheid teenoor gaste van die Amerikaanse Ambassade is al die teks wat volg in Engels. Ons vra ons getroue Afrikaanse ondersteuners om verskoning dat ons nie soos gebruikelik die taalgebruik afwissel nie.

Where will the children play?

It is said that we do not inherit the earth from our parents, but rather borrow it from our children. While man initially lived in perfect harmony with the earth, that balance has now been disturbed. That poses the question: what will the earth look like when we return it to our children? Where will they and their children play? We require new insight to realise that we have only this earth and that we need to accept responsibility for taking care of her.

We share Creation

This section portrays man in perfect balance with nature – life is like a passing day

1. Sun arise

Rolf Harris (born 1930), arr. George de Bruin
Soloist: Neal Badenhorst

*Every day the sun drives away the darkness,
spreading all the light all around*

Rolf Harris is an Australian/British musician, singer, composer, painter, television host and television personality. "Sun arise" is an aboriginal-type song that Rolf wrote with Perth naturalist Harry Butler.

2. i thank You God for most this amazing day

Eric Whitacre (born 1970)
From *Three Songs of Faith* (poems by ee cummings)
Soloist: Classina Cornelius

*The richness of nature and the miracle of each newborn day
are the inspiration for this piece*

The American musician Eric Whitacre is an accomplished composer, conductor and lecturer. He has become one of the most popular and performed composers of his generation. Many of Whitacre's works have entered the standard choral and symphonic repertoires and have become the subject of several recent scholarly works and doctoral dissertations. Whitacre has received composition awards from the Barlow International Composition Competition, the American Choral Directors Association and the American Composers Forum.

She is all that we have

We require wisdom to stop being so preoccupied with ourselves and to realise that we have only one earth – we need to restore the balance between ourselves and her

13. Panda chant II

Meredith Monk (born 1942)

*In a post-nuclear future, survivors and their descendants
are struggling to preserve shards of civilisation*

Meredith Monk is an American composer, performer, director, vocalist, film-maker and choreographer. Since the 1960s, Monk has created multi-disciplinary works which dwell in the spaces between music, theatre, and dance. She first developed a wide range of extended techniques in her solo performances prior to forming her own ensemble. Monk has won numerous awards, including a MacArthur Fellowship, and she holds honorary Doctor of Arts degrees from Bard College, the University of the Arts (Philadelphia), The Juilliard School, the San Francisco Art Institute and the Boston Conservatory. In 2007 she received the Demetrio Stratos International Award for musical experimentation.

Panda Chant II is from her award-winning science fiction opera *The Games*. Set on an imaginary planet, *The Games* takes place in a post-nuclear future where survivors and their descendants are involved in the repetition of ritual games re-enacting earth's culture in order to preserve the shards of civilization. Coming at the middle of the opera, "Panda Chant" is an energetic ritual performed by the whole community as preparation for the third game, *Memory*. Performance of this piece involves coordinating the vocal material with rhythmic stamps and claps. For some of the performers, this means working with two different rhythmic cycles at once.

14. Sy's al wat ons het (She's all that we have)

Nataniël, arr. Sarita Hauptfleisch

We need to learn that this earth is all that we have

South-African singer/songwriter/entertainer Nataniël launched his solo career in 1987. He has not only established himself as producer, director, designer, playwright and public speaker, but as South Africa's leading exponent of the solo stage act. An outspoken and controversial figure, he continuously crosses over from the alternative circuit to the main stage, generating extensive media coverage and a massive cult following.

Horizons was composed for The King's Singers in 1995. It is a lament for the San who were nearly exterminated by English empire builders in the 19th century. The first few verses depict the San in perfect harmony with nature – with the moon that is asked to speak to the rain, and with the star that is asked to blind the eland so that he may be hunted. This balance is disturbed when the empire builders arrive with guns and kill the San people.

The work contains references to elements of San music in cross-rhythms executed through finger snaps and claps, imitation of bow music and incorporation of the San singing style in the melodies.

11. **Where do the children play**

Cat Stevens (born 1948), arr. Mandy Leontakianakis & Sarita Hauptfleisch
Soloists: Arisja Oberholzer, Engela Smit, Kathleen van der Linde

*This is the theme song of the programme
It challenges us to reflect on how far we are willing to go with progress in
exchange for destroying our children's heritage*

Yusuf Islam, best known by his former stage name Cat Stevens, is a British musician. He is a singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, educator, philanthropist and prominent convert to Islam. Since his conversion he has been devoting himself to educational and philanthropic causes in the Muslim community. He has received several awards for his work in promoting peace in the world, including 2003's World Award, the 2004 Man for Peace Award and the 2007 Mediterranean Prize for Peace. In 2006 he returned to pop music with his first album of new pop songs in 28 years, entitled *Another Cup*.

12. **Een noodklok luidt (An alarm is sounding)**

Kurt Bikkembergs
Sung in Flemish

*If we keep on doing what we are doing, the last tree on
earth may be destroyed by an atom bomb*

Composer and conductor Kurt Bikkembergs is choir master at the Flemish Opera and choir master/lecturer at the Lemmens Institute. He is Kapellmeister of the Brussels Cathedral of Saints Michael and Gudule, current choir master of the Eurochor (Union of European Choral Federations), conductor of the Capella di Voce of Louvain and a guest conductor of the Flemish Radio Choir. He is an active staff member of Europa Cantat (Music Consultant), and of Koor en Stem (Composition Department). As a composer he strives to renew vocal, in particular religious music, by adding personal experiences without neglecting tradition.

In this work Bikkembergs makes use of speech choir for expression and sound imitation to portray the ringing of the alarm bell.

3. **Todo este campo es mío (This field is all mine)**

Arr. Alberto Grau
Sung in Spanish

*This field is all mine – divine solitude, cooing of birds, perfume of flower leaves,
the little white horse, butterflies, little path, blue lake...*

Alberto Grau is arguably one of the most influential contemporary Venezuelan choral composers and conductors. He synthesises Venezuelan nationalism with global internationalism. As a student of the nationalistic generation of composers (Vicente Emilio Sojo, Juan Bautista Plaza, and Ángel Sauce), Grau's works display the distinct characteristics found in Venezuelan music. However, his output also exhibits international influences – he uses texts associated with social and environmental events and concerns, including literary and musical influences of other nations and cultures.

4. **The long day closes**

Sir Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900), arr. The King's Singers
For four male voices

*"The long day closes" depicts not only the
close of a day, but the end of one's life*

Sir Arthur Sullivan was an English composer of Irish and Italian descent, best known for his operatic collaborations with librettist W.S. Gilbert.

The King's Singers are a celebrated, long-lived, Grammy Award-winning British a cappella vocal ensemble. Their name recalls King's College in Cambridge, England, where the group was formed by six choral scholars in 1968. Today the ensemble remains one of the world's most popular and sought-after vocal groups. In February 2009 their CD "Simple Gifts" won a Grammy Award for Best Classical Crossover Album.

5. **Mountain nights I**

Zoltán Kodály (1882-1967)
Song without words for women's voices

*The title expresses the composer's deep love for mountains - in particular
the enjoyable holidays during his long life. "Mountains," he told his
biographer Laszlo Esosze, "have their own songs."*

Zoltán Kodály was a Hungarian composer, ethnomusicologist, educator, linguist and philosopher. One of the first people to undertake serious study of folk tales, Kodály became one of the most significant early figures in the field of ethnomusicology. He also had a profound impact on music education both inside and outside his home country.

6. Der Mond und die Sonne (The moon and the sun)

Andre Asriel (born 1922)
From *Sechs Fabeln* (six fables)
Sung in German

*It is cold in the darkness of the universe.
Weave me some beautiful clothes that will warm me!
But how can I weave fitting clothes for you, my son?
One day you are round as a barrel and suddenly you are thin as a rake!*

Andre Asriel is an Austrian-German composer who emigrated to England at the end of 1938 because of racial persecution after the occupation of Austria by Nazi Germany. He has composed songs, ballads, chamber, vocal, instrumental and film music. Many of his compositions are influenced by jazz. He has received the National Prize of East Germany, the Art Award of the Free German Trade Union Federation and the Fatherland Order of Merit.

We praise the Creator

God is eternal and existed long before He created the world –
North, East, South and West belong to Him

7. Am Neujahrstage (On New Year's Day)

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809-1847)
Opus 79/2
Sung in German

*You are our everlasting God, from before the mountains were made
and the earth and the world were created*

Felix Mendelssohn was a German composer, pianist, organist and conductor of the early Romantic period. He was born into a notable Jewish family, although he himself was brought up initially without religion, and later as a Lutheran. His essentially conservative musical tastes set him apart from many of his more adventurous musical contemporaries such as Liszt, Wagner and Berlioz.

Mendelssohn's work includes symphonies, concerti, oratorios, piano and chamber music. He also had an important role in the revival of interest in the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. After a long period of relative denigration due to changing musical tastes and anti-semitism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, his creative originality is now being recognised and re-evaluated. He has become among the most popular composers of the Romantic era.

8. Locus Iste (This place)

Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)
Sung in Latin

This place was made by God, a priceless sacrament without reproach

Bruckner was an Austrian composer known for his symphonies, masses, and motets. Bruckner's compositions helped to define contemporary musical radicalism, owing to their dissonances, unprepared modulations, and roving harmonies. Unlike other radicals, Bruckner showed extreme humility before other musicians.

9. Talismane

Opus 141/4
Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
For double choir
Sung in German

North, East, South and West belong to God and rest in the peace of His hands

Robert Schumann was a German composer, aesthete and influential music critic. He is one of the most famous Romantic composers of the 19th century.

Schumann had hoped to pursue a career as a virtuoso pianist. However, a self-inflicted hand injury prevented those hopes from being realised and he decided to focus his musical energies on composition. Until 1840 all Schumann's published compositions were for the piano. He later composed works for piano and orchestra, many lieder, four symphonies, an opera and other orchestral, choral and chamber works. His writings about music appeared mostly in the *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik* (The New Journal for Music), a Leipzig-based publication that he jointly founded.

Where will the children play?

The harmony between man and nature is increasingly being
disturbed by violence, greed, progress and war

10. Horizons

Péter Louis van Dijk

*This is a lament for the San who were nearly exterminated by
English empire builders in the 19th century*

Péter Louis van Dijk is an internationally performed South African composer. Van Dijk has pursued a career as freelance composer, conductor and part-time lecturer. From about 1990 onwards his interest in indigenous Southern African music and especially Khoisan music becomes apparent in some of his works.