



**Blue Pearl** is an exciting new oratorio for choir, four solo singers and orchestra. It is inspired by the writing of American mystical philosopher, Ken Wilber, and his 'Integral' vision (though you don't need to be familiar with his work to appreciate the piece). It conveys a contemporary view of spirituality which transcends individual religious traditions, embracing humanity, and the earth, as a whole. 'Blue Pearl' is the earth, as seen from space: a unity; our precious home.

The music is beautiful and moving, tuneful and harmonic. It moves between diverse styles, integrated by unifying musical motifs, and by the Integral vision of unity-in-diversity. It includes innovative use of musical structures and motifs to evoke themes in the text. At times it leads into meditative silence.

Blue Pearl can be performed as a whole; or individual movements, or a selection of movements can be performed. Arrangements for smaller accompanying forces may be considered on request.

Movement	Text themes	Musical style(s)	Instru- mentation	Dur- ation
<b>Part 1 (45' approx.)</b>				
Requiem Nunc	Introduction. Eternity, and eternal peace are NOW. The Self ('Spirit', or the Godhead) cannot see itself. A path (one among the many spiritual paths) with no creed or dogma; just maps, and experiments to try.	Classical and big band jazz.	Choir, orch, solo sop & tenor	6'30"
Evolution 5	The entire 13.8 billion years of evolution in 5 minutes of music! The choir sings 'I' in the last split second, representing humanity's 1 million years of existence.	'Evolutionary minimalism'. The music 'winds up' exponentially.	Choir & orch	5'
Anamnesis ('unforgetting')	The evolution of human consciousness, from pre-personal (close to apes) through personal (rational, typical modern adult) to transpersonal (spiritual).	Various classical styles, conveying the different levels of consciousness, from gross to subtle.	Choir, orch, 4 solo singers	19'
One Mother, One Father	DNA research shows that all of humanity are descended from one mother and one father, from Africa. We are many, and we are one: one human race.	African-inspired, with African style percussion.	Choir, orch, solo mezzo-sop & tenor	3'30"
Blue Pearl	Blue Pearl is what the earth looks like seen from space. It is a unity. The earth is speaking to humanity, saying that humans are one with the earth. We realise this when we face our mortality. Beautiful spoken introduction by Edgar Mitchell, lunar astronaut.	African style, riff-based, verse & chorus song.	Choir, orch, solo bass	6'20"
Never Lost, Never Found	The non-dual understanding, from the 'perennial philosophy', that Spirit (by whatever name) is always, already present in every (eternal) moment.	Orchestral introduction & choir chorale.	Orch, then choir acapella	2'



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<b>Part 2 (40' approx.)</b>				
Let Go	Setting of a simple Buddhist teaching. Successive orchestral layers are peeled away to reveal the deep peace to be found in 'letting go'.	Classical.	Choir, orch, solo soprano	3'
Holons	A 'holon' is a <u>whole</u> , and also a <u>part</u> (of a greater whole). Everything in the universe is a holon. A 12-part 'catch' proceeds through the 'holarchy' from quarks, atoms, molecules... to human beings... to the earth, the solar system, and finally the entire Kosmos.	Classical – 12-part 'catch' (vocal parts enter in turn).	Choir, orch, solo soprano	5'
Call Me By My True Names	Setting of a poem by Vietnamese Zen monk, Thich Nhat Hahn. A very moving meditation on the inter-connectedness of all beings, and on compassion.	Classical.	Choir, orch, solo mezzo-sop	6'24"
Sex	Sex?! In a spiritual oratorio?! A humorous and moving <i>celebration</i> of sexuality. Spirituality is not found by denying sexuality, but can be found <i>within</i> sexuality.	Classical.	Choir, orch, solo sop & tenor	6'15"
Death	We all must face death – our own, and the death of our loved ones. Will you close your heart in the face of this pain, or let it break open? The 'mystical' death, when our sense of identify moves from our individual self to the entire Kosmos.	Classical – a 5-part 'catch' and closing section.	Choir, orch, solo sop & mezzo-sop	5'
Be Still	A quiet, simple, poetic summary of guidance for entering meditation. The music leads into a short period of silence, a meditative space built into the fabric of the music.	Simple verse & chorus song.	Solo sop & mezzo sop, orch	2'40"
Requiem Nunc – reprise	Reprise of the opening, and of part of 'Never Lost, Never Found'.	Classical.	Choir, orch	2'
The Potter	A celebratory song to finish. The text is a sort of prayer, that we may fulfil our potential in our lives, and, in doing so, offer our unique gifts to the world. It ends with a reminder that we humans are one with the earth, we are 'Blue Pearl'.	Verse & chorus song, bit of a reggae feel, with big band sections.	Choir, orch, 4 soloists	4'