

“I am taught to live in respect for Mother Earth. In indigenous societies, we are told that Natural Law is the highest law, higher than the law made by nations, states, municipalities and the World Bank.”

„Mir wurde beigebracht, voll Respekt für Mutter Erde zu leben. In unserer Stammeskultur lernen wir, dass das Naturgesetz das höchste Gesetz darstellt, höher als Gesetze von Nationen, Staaten, Städten und der Weltbank.“

Winona LaDuke (White Earth reservation in Northern Minnesota)
from her Statement at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, August 31, 1995

The Earth Is My Mother

The point of departure for *The Earth Is My Mother* is a motif from a Navajo Indian song [2], which the composer employs to develop further powerful elements. They in turn combine with recited text [7] and archaic drum rhythms to form a highly expressive composition.

Ausgangspunkt von *The Earth Is My Mother* ist ein Motiv aus einem Lied der Navajo-Indianer. Aus diesem entwickelt der Komponist weitere ausdrucksstarke Elemente, die sich mit dem rezipierten Sprechtext [7] und archaischen Trommelrhythmen [6] zu einer expressiven Komposition verdichten.

The seven basic compositional elements:


Die sieben grundlegenden kompositorischen Elemente:

1 Mm - o - e! Mm - o - a - e!
(Pronounce "oh-eh", and use an archaic "earth sound")

2 The earth is my mother, we must take care of her, the earth is my mother, all are one!

3 U-nite my people, U-nite my people! U-nite my people, all are one!

U-nite! My people, u-nite! My people, u-nite! My people, all are one!

5 

U-nite, u-nite, come on, u-nite, u-nite, come on, u-nite, u-nite, all_ and one!

6 

7 Two statements by Native Americans, to be recited by a speaker freely to [B] and [L]:

7 Zwei Texte von Indianerinnen und Indianern, die von einem Sprecher zu [B] und [L] gesprochen werden:

[B] **“The earth is our mother.
From her we get our life, our ability to live.
It is our responsibility to care for our mother
and in caring for our mother, we care for ourselves.”**

From the “Beijing Declaration of Indigenous Women” at the UN Fourth World Conference on Women 1995
Aus der „Peking-Erklärung einer indigener Frauen“ der 4. UN-Welt-Frauen-Konferenz 1995

[L] **“We, the five-fingered being, the spiritual beings,
of Sky, Mother Earth, and nature.
We all are relatives.
We cannot have our relations behind!”**

Betty Tso, traditional Navajo
Tso vom Stamm der Navajo-Indianer

Probenhinweise

Bei der Erarbeitung dieses Stückes im Chor werden zu Beginn die musikalischen Elemente 1 – 6 als Warm-ups genutzt, sowohl rhythmisch und bewegungsorientiert als auch statisch. Diese vocal/body warm-ups sind auch eine emotionale Einstimmung auf das Thema. Diese Elemente sind eine wichtige Basis für die ausdrucksstarke Interpretation.

Choral performance of the piece starts with a warm-up phase comprising elements 1 – 6, which are to be sung and accompanied by rhythmic body movement. Together with an emotional focus on the theme of the piece, these vocal/body warm-ups are the key to an expressive interpretation.

The Earth Is My Mother

TTBB a cappella, Speaker and Drums

Words: Lilly C. Olsen
Based on a Native American Theme

Music: Lorenz Maierhofer
Based on a Native American Theme

Expressive, with a slow bodymovement ♩ = ca.66

A

B

*) Speaker 1

T1

B1

T2

B2

Piano/Klavier
(for rehearsal)

C

1. Mm - - - o - - - a - - - e. (stomp)
 earth is my moth - er, all are one! The all are one!

2. Mm - - - o - - - a - - - e. (stomp)
 earth is my moth - er, all are one! The all are one!

D
f U - nite, my peo - ple, U - nite, my peo - ple! U - nite, my peo - ple,
mf Mm - - - o - - - a - - - e. Mm - - - o - - -

f U - nite, my peo - ple, U - nite, my peo - ple! U - nite, my peo - ple,
mf Mm - - - o - - - a - - - e. Mm - - - o - - -

1. all are one! 2. all are one! **E**

mf Mm - - o - -

a - - - e. a - - - e. *mf* Mm - - o - - a - e.

all are one! all are one! *f* U - - - nite My peo-ple,

a - - - e. a - - - e. *f* Th - is moth - er, we must take care of her. The

F

f Mm - - - o - - - e. U - nite, my peo - ple,

Mm - - - o - - - e. *f* The earth - is my moth - er,

u - nite! My peo-ple, all are one! U - nite! My peo - ple,

Th - is moth - er, all are one! U - nite! My peo - ple,

u - nite, my peo - ple! U - nite, my peo - ple, on

we must take care of her, the earth — is my moth - er all — a — one!

u - nite! My peo - ple, u - nite! are

u - nite! My peo - ple, u - nite! peo - ple all are one! So come on:

G

f U - nite, u - nite, come u - nite, come u - nite, u - nite, come on, all — are — one! —

f U - nite, u - nite, come u - nite, u - nite, come on, u - nite, u - nite, come on, all — are — one! —

f Mm - - o - - a - e. Mm - - o - - a - e.

f U - nite, nite, nite, u - nite, u - nite, u - nite, u - nite, u - nite.

H

Mm - - - o - - - a - - - e. Mm - - - o - - - e.

Mm - - - o - - - a - - - e. Mm - - - o - - - e.

U - nite, my peo - ple, u - nite, my peo - ple! U - nite, my peo - ple, all - - - are - - - one!

U - nite, my peo - ple, u - nite, my peo - ple! U - nite, my peo - ple, all - - - are - - - one!

I

U - nite, my peo - ple, u - nite, my peo - ple! U - nite, my peo - ple,

U - nite, my peo - ple, u - nite, my peo - ple! U - nite, my peo - ple,

All - - - are - - - one, - - - are - - - one! All - - - are - - - one - - -

- nite! My peo - ple, u - nite! My peo - ple, u - nite! My peo - ple,

J

all are one! *mf* Mm - - - o - - - a - e.

all are one! The earth is my moth - er, we must take care of her, the

- are one! *mf* Mm - - - o - - - a - e.

all are one! The earth is my - - - must take care of her, the

K Very expressive

Mm - - - o - - - a - - - e. *f* All are one!

earth is my moth er, all are one! *f* All are one!

- Mm - - - o - - - a - - - e. *f* All are one!

- is moth - er all are one! *f* All are one!

rit.

All are one! All are one! *ff* All are one!

All are one! All are one! *f* All are one!

All are one! All are one! All are one!

All are one! All are one! *ff* All are one!

rit.

L *aker 2*

f Mm - o - a - e. *mp* Mm - o - a - e. Mm. _____

f Mm - o - a - e. *mp* Mm - o - a - e. Mm. _____

f Mm - a - e. *fp* Mm! *mp* Mm - o - a - e. Mm. _____

f Mm - o - e. *mp* Mm! *mp* Mm - o - a - e. *f* All are one!