

SOUND- AND 3-CHANNEL-FILM-INSTALLATION BY STEFAN WINTER

POEM OF A CELL

TRIPTYCH OF LOVE AND ECSTASY

[total time: 138 minutes]



The sound and three channel video installation **POEM OF A CELL** opens the wings of a triptych of love and ecstasy. **POEM OF A CELL** fascinates through its amalgamations of sound art with three imaginative films that run simultaneously on three screens. This deliriously beautiful cinepoetry amazes thanks to the might of the film images, shot in one take, the exceptional camerawork and the boundary-crossing composition of sounds. The three screens act like living paintings coexisting side by side with the tremendous narrative power of noise, silence, music and the magic of soundscapes.

POEM OF A CELL is a 138-minutes sound and film sequence about the sensual longing love poems **Song of Songs** from the Tanakh, **The flowing Light of the Godhead** by Mechthild of Magdeburg and **Unity with the Divine** by Rabi'a of Basra. All three poems are based on the unifying theme that brings Judaism, Christianity and Islam together and bridges all their differences: love, ecstasy and, ultimately, the unification with the divine love.

The woman is at the heart of **POEM OF A CELL**. Past, present and future all occur simultaneously.

POEM OF A CELL does not tell a coherent story, but awakens memories using the narrative power of sound, noise and image. It is about desire and spite, longing and disgust, violence and lenity, destruction and salvation, separation and unification, innocence and guilt, permission and suppression, woman and man. In **POEM OF A CELL** reality and fantasy merge seamlessly. It is a stunning journey into the life of mankind.

The Woman: Noriko Kura

The Man: Stefan Winter

Voices: Barbara Sukowa, Fanny Winter

Composition: Alan Bern, William Byrd, Uri Caine, Carlo Gesualdo, Orlando di Lasso,
Fabio Nieder, Rajab Suleiman, Stefan Winter, Fumio Yasuda

Adaptations after Gabriel Fauré, Joseph Haydn, Gustav Mahler, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Antonio Vivaldi

Musicians: Joachim Badenhorst, Alan Bern, Marco Blaauw, Uri Caine, James Genus, Ichiro Hosoya,
Wolfgang Kläsener, Nguyễn Lê, Fabio Nieder, Saada Nassor, Ben Perowsky, Ernst Reijseger, Dirk Rothbrust,
Rajab Suleiman, Barbara Walker, Fanny Winter, Fumio Yasuda

Ensembles: Exaudi Vocal Ensemble, Forma Antiqua, Kettwiger Bach-Ensemble,
Mtendeni Maulid Ensemble, Saint Cecilia Choir of Saint Joseph's Cathedral, Schlagquartett Köln

Director of Sound: Adrian von Ripka

Director of Photography: Gernot Aschoff, Assistant: Florian Epple

Editor: Nathalie Pürzer

Post Production, Color Grading: Scanwerk Munich, Marcus Adam, Peter Deinas, Manuel Lebelt, Rainer Schmidt

Written and Directed by Stefan Winter

Producer: Mariko Takahashi

A Production of Winter & Winter

www.winterandwinter.com

www.facebook.com/winterandwintermusicedition

POEM OF A CELL

TRYPITCH OF LOVE AND ECSTASY

[total time: 138 Minuten]

[0:00] **THE BELL**

Dora Gong: Ichiro Hosoya

[0:15] **POEM OF A CELL – PROLOG**

Composition: Alan Berne · Lyrics: Mechthild of Magdeburg

Accordion: Alan Bern · Voice: Barbara Sukowa

The longer she is dead, the more joyful she lives

The more joyful she lives, the more she discovers

The weaker she grows, the more she gains / The more she fears for herself, ...

The more she accumulates riches, the poorer she becomes

The simpler she lives, the further she comes / The more powerful she is, ...

The deeper her wounds, the stronger she charges

The more God's love is in her, the higher she soars

The more beautifully she shines as she reflects the divine, the closer she approaches him

The more she works, the more peacefully she rests

The more she comprehends, ... / The more she falls silent, the louder her cry

..., the more splendid the miracles she works with his power as she may accomplish

The more consuming his lust, the more magnificent their wedding

The narrower their bed of love, the more intimate their embrace

The sweeter the taste of their kisses, the more loving their glances

The stronger the bitterness of their separation, the more he grants her

The more she consumes, the more she possesses

The humbler her farewell, the sooner she returns

The more fiery she remains, the sooner her flame will burst forth

The more she remains fervent, the more beautifully she shines

The more God's praises are sung, the greater her desire.

[4:13] **INTROITUS, Requiem in D minor, K.626**

Composition: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Forma Antiqua · Conductor: Aarón Zapico

Kettwiger Bach-Ensemble · Soprano: Elisabeth Kläsener · Conductor: Wolfgang Kläsener

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine on them.

Hear my prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come.

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine on them.

[8:42] **LACRIMOSA Requiem in d-moll, K.626**

Composition: Fabio Nieder after a fragment from Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Forma Antiqua · Conductor: Aarón Zapico

Exaudi Vocal Ensemble · Conductor: James Weeks

Kettwiger Bach-Ensemble · Conductor: Wolfgang Kläsener

Mournful that day. When from the ashes shall rise a guilty man to be judged.

Lord, have mercy on him. Gentle Lord Jesus, grant them eternal rest. Amen.

[15:29] **AGNUS DEI, Requiem op. 48**

Composition: Fumio Yasuda after Gabriel Fauré

Forma Antiqua · Conductor: Aarón Zapico

Kettwiger Bach-Ensemble · Conductor: Wolfgang Kläsener

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, give them rest.

Let light eternal shine on them, Lord, with your saints for eternity, for you are merciful.

Grant them eternal rest, lord, and let light always shine on them.

[21:10] **SHIR HASHIRIM [SONG OF SONGS], Chapter 1, Verse 3**

Composition: Uri Caine · Lyrics: Auszug aus dem Tanach

Exaudi Vocal Ensemble · Conductor: James Weeks

Thine ointments have a goodly fragrance; thy name is as ointment poured forth;
therefore do the maidens love thee.

[23:20] **CUM DEDERIT**

Arrangement: Stefan Winter after a fragment by Antonio Vivaldi

Forma Antiqua · Conductor: Aarón Zapico

Clarinet: Joachim Badenhorst

[28:28] **MECHTHILD VON MAGDEBURG II:**

DIE SEELE LOBET GOT AN FÜNF DINGEN

Composition: Fabio Nieder · Lyrics: Mechthild von Magdeburg

Exaudi Vocal Ensemble · Conductor: James Weeks · Schlagquartett Köln

O pouring god in your giving, O flowing god in your love,

O burning god in your desire, O melting god in union with your beloved,

O my god resting on my bosom, without you I cannot be!



Gernot Aschoff during a movie shoot with Stefan Winter and Noriko Kura · Photo: Mariko Takahashi

[32:07] **MECHTHILD VON MAGDEBURG III:
GOT GELICHET DIE SELEN FÜNF DINGEN**

Composition: Fabio Nieder · Lyrics: Mechthild of Magdeburg

Exaudi Vocal Ensemble · Conductor: James Weeks

Schlagquartett Köln

You, magnificent rose among the brambles,

You, tumbling bee in the honey,

You, the dove of purest existence,

You, the sun, so immaculate in your radiance,

You, oh moon, in your full radiance, I cannot avert my face from you!

[36:33] **PECCANTEM ME QUOTIDIE**

Composition: William Byrd · Lyrics: 7th Respond at Matins for the Dead

Exaudi Vocal Ensemble · Conductor: James Weeks

Clarinet: Joachim Badenhorst

As I was sinning every day and not repenting, the fear of death confuses me:

Because in hell there is no redemption. Have mercy on me, God, and save me.

God, by your name rescue me, and by your might liberate me:

Because in hell there is no redemption. Have mercy on me, God, and save me.

[43:00] **AFGHAN FOLK SONG**

Traditional

Robab: Facial Zamiri

[43:19] **BATTLE OVER ALEPPO**

Composition: Fumio Yasuda

Forma Antiqua · Conductor: Aarón Zapico

Clarinet: Joachim Badenhorst · Piano: Fumio Yasuda

[53:30] **ONLY LOVE BEAUTY**

Composition: Uri Caine after Gustav Mahler

Lyrics: Uri Caine and Friedrich Rueckert

Kettwiger Bach-Ensemble · Conductor: Wolfgang Kläsener · Soprano: Barbara Walker

If you love for beauty, oh do not love me!

Love the sun, it has golden hair!

If you love for youth, oh do not love me!

Love the springtime, that is young every year!

If you love for wealth, oh do not love me!

Love the mermaid, who has many limpid pearls!

If you love for love, oh yes, love me!

Love me forever, I will love you forever!

[56:08] **THE CREATION**

Composition: Joseph Haydn · Arrangement: Uri Caine

Lyrics: Excerpt from Book of Genesis

Forma Antiqua · Conductor: Aarón Zapico

Kettwiger Bach-Ensemble · Conductor: Wolfgang Kläsener

Guitar: Nguyễn Lê · Piano: Uri Caine

And the spirit of God moved over the face of the waters

and God said: Let there be light and there is light.

[1:04:22] **SHIR HASHIRIM [SONG OF SONGS], Chapter 1, Verse 17**

Composition: Uri Caine · Lyrics: Excerpt from the Tanach

Exaudi Vocal Ensemble · Conductor: James Weeks

The beams of our houses are cedars, and our panels are cypresses.

[1:06:09] **UNITY WITH THE DIVINE**

Composition: Fumio Yasuda
Lyrics: Stefan Winter after Rabi'a von Basra
Forma Antiqva · Conductor: Aarón Zapico
Clarinet: Joachim Bodenhorst · Piano: Fumio Yasuda
Soprano: Fanny Winter

All love aims at the essence of unity.
The highest love aims at eternal unity.
I am searching for my lover, not his splendour of gifts,
not visions, miracles and power over the material world.
Love is the key to being one in the love match
and love is devotion:
Your will is my will!

Your love is now my desire and my bliss,
and was disclosed to the eyes of my heart, thirsty for you.
I have no-one but you!

You are my bliss, deeply rooted in me:
If you are content with me, then, oh desire of my heart,
happiness appears to me.

I long to pour water into hell
and set fire to paradise,
making those two veils disappear
and not allowing anyone to pray to you for fear of hell
and in hope of paradise,
but solely for the sake of your eternal beauty.

[1:17:05] **IN PARADISUM**

Requiem op. 48
Composition: Fumio Yasuda after Gabriel Fauré
Forma Antiqva · Conductor: Aarón Zapico
Kettwiger Bach-Ensemble · Conductor: Wolfgang Kläsener
The angels may guide you into paradise,
on your arrival, may the martyrs receive you
and lead you into the holy city Jerusalem.
May the chorus of angels receive you,
and with Lazarus, once a beggar,
may you have eternal rest.

[1:20:47] **FRAGMENT OF CHORAL**

Composition: Fumio Yasuda
Forma Antiqva · Conductor: Aarón Zapico

[1:23:43] **KHUPE MARSCH [WEDDING MARCH]**
Traditional Nign of the Bobover Hasidim · Lyrics: Mechthild von Magdeburg
Accordion: Alan Bern · Voice: Barbara Sukowa
You are my mirror mountain,
a feast for mine eyes,
loss of myself, tempest in my heart,
before you my strength surrenders and vanishes,
you are my most elevated certainty!

[1:30:11] **SE LA MIA MORTE BRAMI**

Composition: Carlo Gesualdo
Exaudi Vocal Ensemble · Conductor: James Weeks
If you desire my death,
o cruel woman, I shall die happily
and even after death adore you alone.
But if you desire that I should not love you,
ah, just by the thought alone,
deep sorrow kills me, and my soul withers.

[1:34:08] **MPIGIE MUNGU KELELE ZA SHANGWE**

Composition and Lyrics: Venant Mabula
Saint Cecilia Choir of St. Joseph's Cathedral
MUSTAFA [THE CHOSEN ONE]
Composition and Lyrics: Sheikh Majid Said Mansour
Mtendeni Maulid Ensemble
Voices: Barbara Walker, Exaudi Vocal Ensemble and Forma Antiqva

[1:36:05] **DER B-DUR/MOLL KREIS DES LICHTES UND DES LEBENS**

Composition: Fabio Nieder
Trumpet: Marco Blaauw · Percussion: Dirk Rothbrust
Piano: Fabio Nieder

[1:42:01] **PIE JESU, Requiem op. 48**

Composition: Fumio Yasuda after Gabriel Fauré
Forma Antiqva · Conductor: Aarón Zapico
Kettwiger Bach-Ensemble · Conductor: Wolfgang Kläsener · Soprano: Fanny Winter
Pious Lord Jesus, give them rest. Pious Lord Jesus, give them everlasting rest.

[1:45:19] **NI WEWE TU [YOU ARE THE ONE]**

Composition: Saada Nassor and Rajab Suleiman
Lyrics: Mohamed Ahmed after UNITY WITH THE DIVINE by Stefan Winter after Rabi'a of Basra
Soprano: Saada Nassor · Qanun: Rajab Suleiman · Cello, Organ Pipes: Ernst Reijsegger

[1:58:59] **ETERNAL LOVE**

Composition: Fumio Yasuda
Forma Antiqva · Conductor: Aarón Zapico · Clarinet: Joachim Bodenhorst · Piano: Fumio Yasuda

[2:05:55] **POEM OF A CELL – EPILOGUE**

Composition: Alan Bern · Lyrics: Mechthild von Magdeburg
Accordion: Alan Bern · Voice: Barbara Sukowa
You are my softest pillow, my loveliest bedstead,
my most secret silence, my profoundest desire, my highest honour!
You are my god's pleasure, consolation to my humanity, cool stream to my fieriness!
You are the fire of love for my desire, the sweetest cool touch in my bosom,
an intimate kiss from my mouth, you are the joy of my discovery!
I am in you, and you are in me, as closely entwined as we can be,
since our two selves come streaming into one and form a new whole.
And thus forever remain undaunted.

[2:09:04] **OSCULETUR ME FROM SHIR HASHIRIM [SONG OF SONGS]**

Composition: Orlando di Lasso · Lyrics: Auszug aus dem Tanach
Exaudi Vocal Ensemble · Conductor: James Weeks · Clarinet: Joachim Bodenhorst
Let him kiss me with the kiss of his mouth: for thy breasts are better than wine,
Smelling sweet of the best ointments.
Thy name is as oil poured out: therefore young maidens have loved thee.
Draw me along with you, and let us fly in the scent of your perfume.
The King has brought me into his room:
we will exult and be joyful in you when we think of your breasts,
better than wine, all the right-minded love you.

[2:12:08] **SHINE**

Composition and Lyrics: Uri Caine
Soprano: Barbara Walker · Saxophone: Joachim Bodenhorst · Guitar: Nguyễn Lê
Piano, Hammond Organ: Uri Caine · Bass: James Genus · Drums: Ben Perowsky
When I'm lonely and dejected and I feel like I've lost my way
When I'm reaching for the answer and I'm trying to find my way
You spoke to me and spoke through me and helped me find my way
And your peace and your joy will lift me up and take me to a higher place.
When I'm stuck and frustrated and don't know what to do
Then I call on your love to see me through
You said: Come to me, I'll forgive you and lead you to a higher ground
Bring me your problems always to me because you know I'll be around.
Let me go to the altar of kindness and compassion
Let me go on my way and I follow the world's fashion
Let me be what I always knew I could be
Let me shine with the lights of celebration / Let love shine on every nation.
Let me love and be loved by you / Let your grace shine on every face
Your love, your love will see us through.



Stefan Winter, Florian Epple and Gernot Aschoff with Noriko Kura · Photo: Mariko Takahashi

STEFAN WINTER

Sound-, Object- and Video Art, Music Production
born January 26th, 1958, Tegernsee, Germany

Autodidact Winter created and produced music, noises, soundscapes and video since the early 1980s. He directed the recordings for the labels JMT [Jazz Music Today] and Bamboo [based in Tokyo, Japan] from 1985 through 1995. Together with Mariko Takahashi he founded Winter & Winter after 1995. For this multidisciplinary music label he developed the AudioFilm [the magazine Spiegel titled: Cinema for closed eyes]. Winter turned music-, sound-, and noise-recordings into one work of art. Winter & Winter has amassed numerous awards including the annual German Record Critics' Prize, Edison Award [Holland], Gramophone Award [Great Britain], Diapason d'or [France], Académie Charles-Cros [France]. Winter was honored with the annual prize German Record Critics' Prize and the Schwabinger Kunstpreis [art award Schwabing] from the Cultural department of the Munich Town council [Germany].

Music productions with Hans Abrahamsen, Teodoro Anzellotti, Irvine Arditti, Jim Black, Theo Bleckmann, Uri Caine, Stefano Gervasoni, Forma Antiqua, Mauricio Kagel, Paul Motian, Schoenberg Ensemble, Barbara Sukowa, Ernst Reijseger, Fumio Yasuda and others. Since 1985 Winter produced over 300 music and sound recordings including „Blue Skies“ by Cassandra Wilson, the AudioFilm „Venezia la Festa“, „Urlicht“ after Gustav Mahler and „Wagner e Venezia“ by Uri Caine, film scores and soundtracks with Ernst Reijseger for Werner Herzog and Alex & Andrew Smith, „Let me tell you“ by Hans Abrahamsen with Barbara Hannigan, „On Broadway“ by Paul Motian, „Rien“ by Noël Akchoté, Vivaldis „Le quattro stagioni“ by Aarón Zapico and Forma Antiqua, all Schubert Trios with La Gaia Scienza, „The Goldberg Variations“ with Teodoro Anzellotti, as well as „Nightlife - Sounds of the City“, 10 short soundscapes about the great metropolitan cities of the world. [www.winterstefan.com]



Gernot Aschoff, Florian Epple, Stefan Winter bei Dreharbeiten · Foto: Mariko Takahashi

Performances/Installations by Stefan Winter [selected works]:

- 2004 »Der Kastanienball-Der Fall der Lucrezia Borgia« [»The Chestnut-ball-The Fall of Lucrezia Borgia«]
Festspiel+ of the Munich Opera Festival/Germany
- 2012 »Eroberung des Nutzlosen« [»Conquest of the Useless«]
by and with Werner Herzog
Volksbühne Berlin/Germany

Sound and Room Installations by Stefan Winter [selected works]:

- 2011 »Wanderung« [»Rambling«]
Ludwig Beck, Munich/Germany
- 2012 Werner Herzog's »Hear Say of the Soul«
in collaboration with Ernst Reijseger
Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum, N.Y.C./U.S.A.
- 2013/2014 Werner Herzog's »Hear Say of the Soul«
in collaboration with Ernst Reijseger
Paul Getty Museum, L.A./U.S.A.
- 2013 »Wanderung« [»Rambling«]
Le Rocher de Palmer, Bordeaux/France
- 2013 »Klangvision Botanischer Garten«
Pinakothek der Moderne [Schaustelle], Munich/Germany
- 2013 »On the Path of Death and Life« with Fumio Yasuda and works by Nobuyoshi Araki
MaximiliansForum, Munich/Germany
- 2014 »Die Weinende« [»The weeping Woman«], group exhibition Singing Sculptures
Kunsthalle Rathausgalerie, Munich/Germany
- 2014 »Vor der Stille« [»Before the Silence«]
Kunsthalle Rathausgalerie, Munich/Germany
- 2015 »Die Weinende« [»The weeping Woman«]
Le Rocher de Palmer, Bordeaux/France
- 2015 Werner Herzog's »Hear Say of the Soul«,
in collaboration with Ernst Reijseger
Wallraf-Richartz-Museum, Cologne/Germany
- 2017 Noriko Kura and Stefan Winter »Living Colors«
whiteBOX, Munich/Germany
- 2017/2018 »Gedicht einer Zelle« [»Poem of a Cell«]
World premiere: ZIFF, Stonetown/Zanzibar · European premiere: Festival Donostia Kultura, San Sebastian/Spain
Dr. Hecht Arts Center, Haifa/Israel · German premiere: Rathausgalerie Kunsthalle, Munich/Germany