

**THE
TEMPTATION
OF
SAINT ANTHONY**

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

(c) Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

AUDIO SCORE

FOR REVIEW PURPOSES ONLY, NO DUPLICATION

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY*

CREATED AND DIRECTED BY ROBERT WILSON

MUSIC AND LIBRETTO

Musical Production

BY

BERNICE JOHNSON REAGON

July 5, 2003

(c) Copyright 2010 Smartlib Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

World Premier

RuhrTriennale Festival

and

Change Performing Arts

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved including Public Performance For Profit

June 20, 2003

Used by Permission

Duisburg, Germany

*Inspired by the text of Gustave Flaubert

Direction, set design, lighting concept: Robert Wilson

Music and Libretto: Bernice Johnson Reagon www.bernicejohnsonreagon.com

Conductor and orchestration: Toshi Reagon www.toshireagon.com

Co-Direction: Ann Christin Rommen

Collaboration to set design: Stephanie Engeln

Lighting Design: A. J. Weissbard

Sound Design: Peter Cerone

Producers: Elisabetta Di Mambro , Franco Laera

Change Performing Arts, Milan, www.changeperformingarts.it

Co-produced by RUHRTRIENNALE and CHANGE PERFORMING ARTS

In collaboration with

CRT ARTIFICIO, ORTIGIA FESTIVAL SIRACUSA

PERALADA AND SANTANDER FESTIVALS

SADLERS WELLS LONDON, AVENTIS FOUNDATION,

OPERA NATIONAL DE PARIS

WORLD PREMIERE

JUNE 20, 2003

Gebhausehalle, Duisburg

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Saint Anthony was a historical figure who was born 250 ad in Egypt, son of wealthy Christian parents. He decided at the age of about 20 to live in poverty and for 30 years lived the life of a hermit in the desert. He is considered to be the father of all monks, the founder of Christian monasticism and the icon of austerity. His life inspired many painters, especially from late middle ages and early Renaissance, like Bosch, Breughel, Gruenewald.

Gustave Flaubert(1822-80), French writer, became famous through his first published book, *Madame Bovary* in 1857, the first so-called “modern” novel. Flaubert was writing “The Temptation of St Anthony” almost all of his life. The first version was written in 1848/9 after he had seen a Breughel painting of St Anthony in Genoa. It was written in a romantic, symbolic and very lyrical style and expressed exotic-oriental and medieval themes that were both very fashionable at that time. The second version was written in 1856, and the last one, the one upon which this adaptation was created, in 1874. “The Temptation of Saint Anthony” is a travel of Anthony in one single night (like the “Divine Comedy” of Faust II”) through the period of early Christianity with a lot of philosophical talking, some very satirical characters and archaic, exotic and fantastic images. In its core it is about the transformation and meaning, the search for the essence of life centered in questions of unity and tension between body and spirit.

This nightmare journey in seven stations takes place from sundown to sunrise. It is a journey where everything Anthony believes is brought up to question. The narrative also suggests that notions of consistency in witness are not based in reality. One does not walk a path without questions, high and low levels of commitment and temptations. Part of consistency is the presence and partnering with inconsistency.

The Temptation of Saint Anthony, a new and original musical created and directed by Robert Wilson, with music and libretto by Bernice Johnson Reagon is based on the 19th century text of Gustave Flaubert, adapted by Wolfgang Wiens.

AUDIO SCORE PROGRAM

Station I: Anthony Alone

1. Dusk
Band/ensemble

2. One More Time
Ensemble/band

3. I Be Troubled
Two voices/band

4. He Saw the Heavens Open...
Anthony/ensemble/band

5. If I could Fly
Band/ solo voice/ensemble

6. I Can't Find My Burden Bearer
Anthony/ensemble/band

Station II: Temptations

7. Kneebone
ensemble/band

8. Table is Spread
ensemble/band

9. Long, Long Way to the River
Ensemble/band

10. Windstorm
Band/ensemble

11. God is Love
Band/Sheba/Handmaidens/Adonis

12. Windstorm Reprise
band

Station III

13. Hilarion's Return
Ensemble

14. This Life Apart is Bad...
Hilarion/Anthony

15. Hypocrite!
Anthony/ensemble/band

16. Thirst for the Truth
.Hilarion/ensemble

17. Don't You Have Questions?
Anthony/Hilarion/Ensemble/Band

18. Come and Go to That Land
Hilarion/ensemble/band

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

(c) Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

Station IV: The Believers Bazaar

1st Stall: The Nature of the Universe

19. Instrumental Fly
Band

20. Nature of the Universe
ensemble/band

2nd Stall: The Goddess

21. I am a Lady
Earth, water, fire/band

3rd Stall: The Braham

22. Braham's Song

4th Stall: The Adoration of the Snake

23. Call of the Snake Rhythm
Band/ensemble

24. Thirst for the Truth Reprise

Hilarion/ensemble

5th Stall: The True Nature of the Christ

25. The Nature of the Christ
ensemble

26. It's Gon' Rain

Ensemble/band

27. Hypocrite

Anthony/ensemble/band

28. I knew the Carpenter's Son

Ebonite/ensemble/band

29. I Believe

Anthony/ensemble/band

Station V: Ode to Science

30. Ode to Science

Anthony/Hilarion/ensemble

Station VI: Where Do I Go?

31. Where Do I Go, Does Matter Matter?

Ensemble/band

Station VII: Dawn

32. Dawn

Anthony/ensemble/band

Musical Production
THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY
Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon
Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon
Copyright © 2019 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.
International Copyright Secured
Made In U.S.A.
All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit
Used by Permission

AUDIO SCORE CREDITS

Producer, Bernice Johnson Reagon with Toshi Reagon
Recording Engineer, Jens Mulhausen
Recording Studio, Koln, Germany
Mix Engineer, Jim Robeson
BIAS Studios, Springfield VA
CD Production OASIS
Recording date: July 5, 2003 Koln, Germany

Recording Cast Members*

Stephanie Battle
Bukanla
Helga Davis
Aleta Hayes
Don Jones
Marcelle Lashley
Kismet Lyles
Gloria McNeal
Josette Newsman
James Staten
Carl Hancock Rux
Jason Walker
Leonard Woodbridge
Christalyn Wright

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Toshi Reagon, Tour Music Director, band leader guitar and vocals
Adam Widoff lead guitar
Fred Cash, Jr. bass
Robert Burke, drum
Morley Kamen, Rhythm guitar
Susan Hadjopoulos, Percussion

**cast members Conrad Neblett and Charles Williams were unable to participate in the recording sessions*

COVER GRAPHIC DESIGN

Robert Wilson

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Elisabetta Di Mambro
Sue Jane Stoker

Musical Production
THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

LIBRETTO

STATION I

ST. ANTHONY ALONE

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Station I finds Anthony at the end of the day; despondent and wondering what has it all been about. Why has his spiritual well run dry? His life alone has been in search of the highest form of unity with God. He believes that the body, the physical, weighs down the spiritual and it is through denial of all things physical, deducing all stimulus to the senses will he experience the highest form of spiritual and the most desired way of worshiping and devotion to God. As this day ends, he is at a very low place and his faith is very weak...

Made In U.S.A.

Music: DUSK, vocal and instrumentals

BAND/ENSEMBLE

A battalion of birds is seen passing in triangular formation, Anthony watches them.

Music: ONE MORE TIME

ENSEMBLE/BAND

One more time

One more time

One more time

One more time

One more time

Ah-- I see the sun going doing down

One more time

Music: I BE TROUBLED

TWO VOICES /BAND

I be troubled

I be troubled

I be troubled 'bout my time done long gone

I be troubled

I be troubled

I be troubled 'bout my time done long gone

In the morning

In the morning

I don't feel like seeing the sun come shining

In the morning

In the morning

I don't feel like seeing the sun come shining

A large book enters and is placed before, he reads/chanting and the ensemble expands his voice

Chant: HE SAW THE HEAVENS OPEN...
ST ANTHONY/ ENSEMBLE/BAND

He saw the heavens open...
And something descending,
Like a great sheet,
Let down by four corners upon the earth.
In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air.
And there came a voice to him:
Rise, Peter! Kill and Eat!
Kill? Eat?

Music: I BE TROUBLED... *reprise*

I be worried
I be worried
I be worried in the bottom of my being here
I be worried
I be worried
I be worried in the bottom of my being here

Birds return and Anthony watches them

Music: IF I COULD FLY
BAND/ENSEMBLE

If I could fly
If I ---
If I could fly away with you...
If I –
If I – away with you
(non-textual phrasing)

He stamps his foot, goes swerving about between the rocks, then stops out of breath, burst into tears and lies down on the ground on his side.

Music: I CAN'T FIND MY BURDEN BEARER...
ANTHONY/ENSEMBLE/BAND

I'm so burdened down,
Bearing my load in the heat of the day
You said, you'd be my burden bearer---

I can' find my burden bearer
I can' find my burden bearer
Have you seen my burden bearer?
I need my burden bearer

You're my joy in sorrow
You're my comfort when I'm all alone
You're my friend when I'm friendless
I need, I need, I need my burden bearer

I can' find my burden bearer
I can' find my burden bearer
Have you seen my burden bearer?
I need my burden bearer

You're my bread when I'm starving
You're my water in dry land
You're my shelter when it's storming
I need, I need, I need my burden bearer

I can' find my burden bearer...

Musical Production
THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Liturgical and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon
Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon
(c) Copyright 2006 Congdon Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit
Used by Permission

STATION II

TEMPTATIONS

FEAST--GLUTTONY

Musical Production

Music: KNEE BONE... *while the table is being prepared...*
ENSEMBLE/BAND

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

Knee bone in the morning
Oh Lord Knee bone
Knee bone in the evening
Oh Lord Knee bone bend

Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Bend my Knee bone to the ground
Oh Lord Knee bone
Bend my Knee bone to the ground
Oh Lord Knee bone bend

Made In U.S.A.

Knee bone Zachariah
Oh Lord Knee bone
Knee bone Zachariah
Oh Lord Knee bone bend

Peter didn't I call you
Oh Lord Knee bone,
Peter didn't I call you
Oh Lord Knee bone bend

including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

Anthony is tempted by the banquet by the devil...

Music: TABLE IS SPREAD
ENSEMBLE/BAND

Come on over here where the table is spread
Come on over here where the table is spread
Come on over here where the table is spread
Know the feast of the Lord going on!

Joy over here where the table is spread...

Love over here where the table is spread...

Come on over here...

Anthony comes to himself to find his water jug empty...

Music: LONG, LONG WAY TO THE RIVER
ENSEMBLE/BAND

My jug is empty and I'm thirsty and dry
It's a long long way to the river
My hunger's biting and all my bread is gone
It's a long long way to the river

Somebody help me!
It's a long way, It's a long way
It's a long long way to the river

Somebody help me!
It's a long way, it's a long way
It's a long long way to the river

GREED

During this verse, huge piles of gold and silver appears and the devil tempts Anthony with it

Flowing streams of silver and gold
It's a long long way to the river
Greed's got me hooked in its seductive fold
It's a long long way to the river
Somebody help me!
It's a long way, it's a long way
It's a long long way to the river

Somebody help me!
It's a long way, It's a long way
It's a long long way to the river

It doesn't matter whether I'm sleep or I'm dreaming
It's a long long way to the river
Can't get beyond my body's lust and needing
It's a long long way to the river

Somebody help me!
It's a long way, it's a long way
It's a long long way to the river

Somebody help me!
It's a long way, it's a long way
It's a long long way to the river

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

Copyright © 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

QUEEN OF SHEBA—LUST

Music: WINDSTORM

BAND/ENSEMBLE

Windstorm supports the building of the mountains and transitions to the percussion opening of God is Love, as the Queen of Sheba journeys across the range toward Anthony. The seduction scene is done as dance and song

Music: GOD IS LOVE

BAND/SHEBA/HANDMAIDENS TRIO

these 3 lines are sung at the same time

If God is love

Yes God is love

God is love

And our bodies were created for loving

And our bodies were made for loving

We were made for loving

Then you coming into me

Then you into me

You into me

Could bring us both into The Divine

Would bring us into The Divine

Brings us into our Divine

As Anthony manages to reject the Queen of Sheba and she hobbles off, he turns for relief only to find himself pulled by the seductive approaches of Adonis

ADONIS---LUST

Music: GOD IS LOVE

BAND/MALE SOLO

Anthony repels himself from this seduction and the percussion section of God is Love is overlaid by Windstorm as the mountains are taken away

Music: WINDSTORM

ENSEMBLE/BAND

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

Copyright 2012, Copyright Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

STATION III

HILARION

HILARION

Hilarion enters the stage in silence, then the band and ensemble begins the chant section of "Coming Home"

Music: HELARION'S RETURN

HELARION/ENSEMBLE/BAND

I wandered long both far and near
Now I'm coming home
The path I've trod, charged with confusion and fear

Coming home, coming home
Never more to roam
Open wide thine arms of love
Now I'm coming home...

You think yourself abandoned, all peace is gone
From me, your pain – you cannot hide
Although I been gone, I not been far away
I have never really left your side

HILARION

This life apart... is bad.

ANTHONY

On the contrary!
Man, being spirit,
must withdraw from mortal things.
All action degrades him.
I could wish not to be attached to the earth –
not even by the soles of my feet!

Music: HYPOCRITE!

ENSEMBLE/HELARION/BAND

You're a Hypocrite!
Sinking into solitude
You're a Hypocrite!
Making up your own rules
You're a Hypocrite
Sinking into solitude
Torture is not the highest ground

You think that denial is the way
To reach the highest ground

You think that spirit cannot rise
When your body is earthbound

So, you don't eat meat,
You don't drink wine
You don't surrender to love
You spend every day denying yourself
In service to God above

Every night when you lay down to rest
Your dreams and fantasies rise
This journey you walk in the light of the day
Is corrupted when you close your eyes

Music: THIRST FOR THE TRUTH
HELARION/ENSEMBLE

Our merit lies only in our thirst for the truth
Religion alone cannot explain everything
Therefore we must listen to every reason
Religion alone cannot explain everything
Despising nothing and despising nobody
Religion alone cannot not explain everything

Our merit lies only in our thirst for the truth
Religion alone does not explain everything

Music: DON'T YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?
ANTHONY/HILARION/ENSEMBLE/BAND

ANTHONY
No matter!
One must believe in the Scriptures!

HILARION
And yet the Scriptures are not always consistent:
Don't you sometimes have questions?

The Angel of the annunciation
appears in Matthew to Joseph,

Whereas in Luke...
It's to Mary Anthony sounds lines in italics

The drink offered to him on the cross in Matthew is wine with gall ,
in Mark... *wine and myrrh.*

According to Luke and Matthew
The Apostles must take neither money not packs,
Not even sandals or a stick

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

(c) Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

In Mark, on the contrary,
Jesus forbids them to carry anything
Except for
Sandals and a stick

HELARION

I'm Lost!

Have not these questions ever occurred to you?

ANTHONY

Yes!...often!

Sleeping or rampaging they persist in my mind,

I stamp them out,

They reappear,

Smother me

Sometimes I think that I am cursed.

...I still need to worship him!

Music: COME AND GO TO THAT LAND...

HILARION/ENSEMBLE/BAND

Come and go with me to that land
Come and go with me to that land
Where I'm bound, where I'm bound

Why don't you come and go with me to that land
Come and go with me to that land
Come and go with me to that land
Where I'm bound...

All is well in that land...

You may find the light in that land...
Don't you want to go to that land?...

There is nothing to fear in that land...
Don't you want to go to that land where I'm bound?...

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

STATION IV

THE BELIEVERS BAZAAR

And Anthony is led by Helarion sees in front of a market place, a kind of bazaar, and in each space like a market vendor's stall he encounters those who follow variant belief systems, in some spaces there are fierce debates.

1ST STALL: THE NATURE OF THE UNIVERSE

Four voices put forth their notions of the nature of the universe

MUSIC: FLY
BAND

MANI

The celestial earth is at the upper extremity,
The mortal earth at the lower extremity.
It is upheld by two angels.

THE SPLENDITENEN

At the top of the highest heaven dwells the impassable Divinity;
beneath,
face to face,
are the Son of God and the Prince of Darkness.

SATURNINUS

When... when... when the darkness had advanced up to his kingdom,
God drew from his essence a virtue which produced the first man;
and he set the five elements about him.
But the demons of darkness robbed him of one portion,
and that portion is the soul.

THE HERBIAN

There is one soul only,
Universally poured out,
Like the water of a river divided into several branches.
This it is that sighs in the wind,
Grates in marble when it is hewn,
Howls in the voice of the sea;
And weeps milky tears when you pull leaves from the fig tree.

MANI

The Supreme Being with its infinite emanations is called Abraxas,
and the Saviour with all his virtues -- Kaulakau,
otherwise line-upon-line,
rectitude-upon –rect... *this speaker is abruptly cutoff*

SPLENDITENEN

Honour marriage! The Holy Spirit is female!

2ND STALL: THE GODDESS

The central Goddess is earth mother, grounded, beautiful and powerful. She has three daughters, fire, air and water, she calls them together to address the challenge and disorder in the world.

Music: I AM A LADY
EARTH/FIRE/WATER/BAND

I am a lady
At your service
Tell me what you need, when you need, how you need me to be

I am a voice
At your calling
Whisper me the song you'd have me sing

I am a worker
At your bidding
Show me where you want me to dig

I am a baby
Hear me cooing
Rock me in my sleep and my slumber

I am a lover
Need your loving
Hold me till I give in to surrender

I am a way
From here to yonder
Pass through me on your sojourn to tomorrow

I am life
I am forever
Drink me and then give me away

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

(c) Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

3rd STALL:THE BRAHMAN

Flames shoot out on all sides from the gasps between timbers and he goes on:

Music: BRAHMAN'S SONG
BRAHMAN/ENSEMBLE/BAND

Everything begotten will die,
Everything dead must live again;
Beings now vanished will come back to earth
To serve others in pain

Everything begotten will die,
Everything dead must live again;
Beings now vanished will come back to earth
To serve others in pain

Again and Again...

Over and over again

Again and again

Over and over again

Again and again

Over and over again

Again and again

Over and over again

Beings now vanished will come back to earth

To serve others in pain

Over and over again

I once lived in the tree behind me
I fed on flowers and fruit
Since existence stems from corruption,
Corruption stems from desire,
Desire stems from sensation,
Sensation stems from contact,
I fled all action, I fled all contact.
I fled all action, I fled all contact

Everything begotten will die...

By the very fact that I know a thing
That thing ceases to exist.
For me there is now no hope
For me there is now no anxiety,
For me there is now no happiness
For me there is now no virtue,
Neither night nor day,
Nor you nor me –
Absolutely nothing.

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

© Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

I fled all action, I fled all contact
I fled all action, I fled all contact

Everything begotten will die...

Musical Production
THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY
Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon
Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon
(c) Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.
International Copyright Secured
Made In U.S.A.
All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit
Used by Permission

4th STALL: THE ADORATION OF THE SNAKE

This scene is visualized through dance, vocal and instrumental sound...

Music: CALL OF THE SNAKE RHYTHM

BAND/ENSEMBLE

The priest and priestess and two followers call the snake forth. Out of a basket of some sort of covering, a beautiful snake slowly appears. It passes through the crowd and everything she touches is taken as sacrament by those who gather in adoration... She is lifted, but still moves stretches, as if they are her earth; they enclose Anthony offering

Anthony faints with horror!

But suddenly a man /Tertullian dressed in a Carthaginian coat comes bounding among them, he stops the drums and rails against those who revere the snake.

Music:HYPOCRITES!

TERTULLIAN/ENSEMBLE/BAND

Ah!

Imposters!

Simoniacs!

Vermin!

Dregs of hell!

Heretics and demons!

Hypocrites!

Spewing out streams of confusion

You're a Hypocrite

Walking in the way of darkness

Hypocrites!

Spewing out streams of confusion

Hypocrites!

You'll crumble in the light of the lamb!

Anthony has recognised Tertullian, and rushes to meet him

Let images be broken!

Virgins veiled!

Pray, fast, weep, mortify yourselves!

No need of philosophy!

No need of books!

After Jesus,

Science is pointless!

Hypocrites!...

Spewing out streams of confusion

Hypocrites!

Walking in the way of darkness

Hypocrites!

Spewing out streams of confusion

Hypocrites!

You'll crumble in the light of the lamb!

Helarion breaks into the song, arms up and outstretched and chants "Thirst for the Truth"

Music: THIRST FOR THE TRUTH

HELARION/ENSEMBLE

Our merit lies only in our thirst for the truth
Religion alone cannot explain everything
Therefore we must listen to every reason
Religion alone cannot explain everything
Despising nothing and despising nobody
Religion alone cannot not explain everything

Our merit lies only in our thirst for the truth
Religion alone does not explain everything

Musical Production
THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY
Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon
Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon
(c) Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.
International Copyright Secured
Made In U.S.A.
All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit
Used by Permission

5th STALL: THE TRUE NATURE OF THE CHRIST

Music: IT'S GON' RAIN!
ENSEMBLE/BAND

Come on in this ark
It's gon' rain
You better come on in this ark
It' gon' rain
Children come on in this ark
God told Noah it's gon' rain

Rained 40 days, 40 nights without stopping
Noah was glad when the water stopped dropping
God sent a raven to spread the news
Hatched his wings and away he flew...

God told Noah about the rainbow sign
Won't be water but fire next time...

You better come on in this ark...

I got business in this ark...

This dialogue on the nature of the Christ begins clearly and then rapidly gets jumbled as the four speakers speak across themselves

ARIUS

A thousand times no!
the son is not co-eternal with the father,
nor of the same substance!
Otherwise he would not have said: 'Father take this cup away from me!'

SABELIUS

But I maintain that the two are identical.

ANTHONY

What then is the Word?...What was Jesus?

A VALENTINIAN

He was Shem, son of Noah!

CERINTHUS

He was Melchisedech.

ARIUS

He was nothing but a man.

Jumbled on top of each other with some phrases cutting thru

He develops from the father! The two are identical! He assumed the appearance of man! He simulated the passion! He will rise again! No! His Body is celestial! He is God only since his Baptism! He lives in the Sun!

Anthony sharply lifts his head, looking at them without speaking; then walking straight up to them

Music: HYPOCRITE:
ANTHONY/ENSEMBLE/BAND

Hypocrites!
Spewing out streams of confusion
Hypocrites!
Walking in the way of darkness
Hypocrites!
Spewing out streams of confusion
Hypocrites!
You'll crumble in the light of the world

Doctors,
Magicians,
Bishops and deacons,
Men and ghosts,
Back with you!
Back! You are all liars...

AN OLD EBIONITE *desiccated like a mummy, dull-eyed, his eyebrow white. In a shaky voice he says*

Music: I KNEW THE CARPENTER'S SON
EBONITE/ENSEMBLE/BAND

Oh I imagine the Christ, Jesus Christ is wonderous, radiant, superhuman beautiful

This line repeated as a bed

I knew him
I did
I grew up with him
I knew the carpenter's son

I knew him
I did
I grew up with him
I knew the carpenter's son
We were the same age
We lived side by side
We played together
I knew the carpenter's son

You forget he was a baby boy
You forget he was a little boy
Just like me

Musical Production
THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY
Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon
Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon
Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.
International Copyright Secured
Made In U.S.A.
All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit
Used by Permission

I knew him
I did
I knew the carpenter's son

He use to model little birds out of mud
He learned the trade of his father
He pulled wool for his mother's knitting

I knew him
I did
I grew up with him
I knew the carpenter's son

Oh as a young man
He journeyed into Egypt
And when he came back
Oh, he was changed
You could just feel his power
His knowledge extended deep into the endless ages
And reaching into the stars

I knew him
I did
I was in Jericho when he came to find the locust eater
John the Baptist baptized him
Hum----

I knew him
I did

I grew up with him
I knew the carpenter's son
He was not so good looking
He looked just like you and me

Sometimes he was fierce and forbidding
Because he had taken all the crimes
All of the deformities of the world
Sometimes he walked with a stick
He seemed to carry the pain
and the suffering of the world
He sometimes looked bowed down

He looked me
He looked like you
He looked like the people

I knew him
I did
I knew the carpenter's son

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

© Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved. Including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

We were the same age
We lived side by side
We played together.

I knew the carpenter's son
I did
He looked like Judah
He talked like Jephtha
He walked like Jasper
He rocked Daniel like Big Momma when he shouted
He looked like the people
He looked just like you and me

I knew him
I did
I grew up with him
We were the same age
We played together
He looked like the people

Anthony is on the ground, his face in his hands. Standing next to him, turning his back on the cross, Hilarion watches him. Anthony stands and repeats the symbol of Jerusalem – as he remembers it – letting out with each phrase a long sigh:

Chant:

ANTHONY/ENSEMBLE/BAND

I believe, I believe, I believe
I believe, I believe, I believe
I believe I believe
I-----believe-----

[three voices]

I believe-----

In one God, the Father –
And in one Lord, Jesus Christ –
First-begotten Son of God –
Who was incarnate and was made Man –
Who was crucified – dead and buried –
Who ascended into heaven
Who shall come to judge the quick and the dead –
Whose kingdom shall have no end
And in one Holy Ghost –
And in one baptism of repentance –
And in one holy Catholic Church –
And in the resurrection of the flesh –
And in life eternal!

STATION V ODE TO SCIENCE

Now comes an enormous silence

ANTHONY
All of them have vanished.

HELARION
All but I!

And in front of him is Hilarion- but transfigured, lovely as an archangel, luminous as a sun

Music: ODE TO SCIENCE
HILARION/ENSEMBLE/BAND

I go on forever, I go on forever...

My kingdom has the dimensions of the wide whole universe
My interests and desires knows no bounds
I bow to nothing that comes without proof
I go forever

I come in the name
Of Science
I come in the name
Of knowledge
I come in the name
Of research
I come in the name
Of testing
I come in the name
Of thinking
I come in the name
Of intelligence
I go on forever

Freeing the spirit
Without hate
Freeing the spirit
Without love
Freeing the spirit
Without pity
Freeing the spirit
Without fear
Freeing the spirit
Without compassion
Freeing the spirit
Without God

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

(c) Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission

I go on forever...

Musical Production
THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY
Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon
Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon
(c) Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.
International Copyright Secured
Made In U.S.A.
All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit
Used by Permission

STATION VI WHERE DO I GO

Anthony follows Helarion/turned Archangel and begins to journey in search of a place where matter and spirit are united

Music: WHERE DO I GO?/crossed with “DOES MATTER MATTER?”

This song begins off-stage by the ensemble and band and the singers move on stage at the end of the 2nd verse of “Does Matter Matter?”

Where do I go?

Where do I go?

Where do I go?

Where do I wander?,,,

The text of the song “Does Matter Matter” is laid inside the bed of “Where Do I Go”

Does matter matter?

What is the function of form?

Does matter matter

Why in flesh do we come...?

What does it matter

If woman, tree or fish

What does it matter

Without body what would I miss?

Some say that spirit

Is really everywhere

Some say the universe

Is inside and out there

But are you sure of seeing?

Are you sure you're here

Perhaps there is nothing?

Nothing to make it clear

**STATION VII
DAWN**

Anthony and those who accompany him find themselves at sunrise on the mountain weaving baskets...-

Music: DAWN
ENSEMBLE/BAND

FIN

Musical Production

THE TEMPTATION OF SAINT ANTHONY

Libretto and Music by Bernice Johnson Reagon

Orchestral Arrangement by Toshi Reagon

(c) Copyright 2010 Songtalk Publishing Co., Washington, D.C.

International Copyright Secured

Made In U.S.A.

All Rights Reserved Including Public Performance For Profit

Used by Permission