

The Waves. For Mary Magdalene

In Percival's books *Letters to Shanti* (2002) and *Time Plays* (2000) you can find texts where Mary Magdalene is of utter importance and is more than just a legendary biblical figure. She is here at this moment.

Percival says: "Many of us feel that we are at the end of a very long human history, at the end and at the same time in the beginning... Have we already passed Judgement Day, and do we now face an immense vastness that must be filled with a new creation?"

"The common degradation is an experience almost everybody shares, and who can save anybody? We know that the Master in the New Testament was able to heal people in a respectful way, but what happened to his companion Mary Magdalene after his resurrection? Did she – as legends tell – come to the coast of Southern France in a boat without sails and oars?"

"Some say she spent her last days in a cave on a mountain called Sainte-Baume in Provence. Here she fulfilled her mission, but her real mission has of course never ended. Her true time has finally entered, and the long history of man's degradation is also in some way her story that belongs to a past and present human experience.

"Can a new voice... a new song... or... a new appearance... hers... and the song... *The Waves. For Mary Magdalene*... be a healing for the listeners?"

In the composition *The Waves. For Mary Magdalene* the initial song is taken from *Time Plays* and the other song (written in an almost new tongue) was published in Percival's first book in English, *Words*. The intensity of the elements is coming from the heart of the composer, who looks upon his composition *The Waves. For Mary Magdalene* as an invocation opening a new Mary Magdalene time, the era of *The Waves, M M*, when woman and man can play and create together without degrading each other.

Since a very long time before the year 2000 Percival had the "waves composition" in his mind and had notes of a medieval character (concerning the text Carina sings at the beginning and at the end) but preferred that Carina put her soul and heart into her own musical setting. This text forms a part of a sequence of poems called "Natasha" – published in its entirety in *Time Plays*.

The Waves. For Mary Magdalene

By Percival

Time: 33:59

Female voice: Carina

Male voice: Percival

The drums played by the composer are from various parts of Africa. A Tibetan bowl is played by the composer before the somewhat "Joycean" temple text ("Ablalong") sung by Carina and Percival.

You can read *Letters to Shanti* (Art Distribution 2002, see www.artdistribution.se) if you want to know more about the "new" Mary Magdalene, and there is, as you will realize when you listen, a secret story behind *The Waves. For Mary Magdalene*.

Technical realization: Pär Johansson and Daniel Eideholm, EMS (Electroacoustic Music in Sweden).

ABOUT CARINA

Carina is a singer, a songwriter-composer, and a dancer-choreographer trained in the performing arts since early childhood. She has appeared on stage in her own song and dance performances with songs of her own, composed in a variety of musical genres. She has a background in music and dance drama, and today she performs mainly as a singer on stage – at music festivals, peace festivals, etcetera.

The Mary Magdalene song she sings in this composition is her own musical setting of a text by Percival.

For Mary Magdalene

It is as if you were
a memory in a world
I've never known,

a legend in a time
of silence...

A wave, and all history is gone...
No voice can be heard in this place
except your song – as a
far-away reminiscence...

(A new poem by Percival)

ABOUT PERCIVAL

Percival (first name and surname; no pseudonym), who lives in Stockholm, Sweden, is a writer, artist, and composer. He has exhibited his paintings and published books in Swedish and in English. His music and some of his plays have been performed in Stockholm and elsewhere. Information about his works: www.artdistribution.se

CD box photos (front, back) and on the disc: © Percival
The photograph on the front cover shows the Sea of Galilee

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