GODDESS SUITE

BY WINIFRED KEANE

Soprano, Alto, Bass Solos + Female Chorus with String Quartet

-GODDESS SUITE-

I-CHORUS

Isis,Astarte,Inanna,Hecate,Dictynna,Diana,Lilith,Oshun,the Djanggwul sisters,The Goddess of One Thousand Names!

II-TRINITY

The first divine trinity:

Innocence, The New Moon ! Virgin. Fulfillment, Full Moon, Mother Wisdom, The Waning Moon. Crone!

She taught her people the wisdom of the cycles of birth, growth, death, and birth. She taught that life and death, as regeneration and continuity, define the whole.

Now, as all things move in cycles, and the father could not survive without the mother, it is time to look again to the feminine face of God.

I-CHORUS

The Goddess is returning, and we are experiencing yet another spiritual awakening. We have learned how to dominate the earth and direct her to do our bidding. Now we remember that Earth has a wisdom of her own, and we have lessons to learn from her yet again.

III-EARTH-MOTHER

I-CHORUS

The Goddess is a symbol of power-not power over others, but the power to direct our own lives. She teaches balance, to take what we need when we think we need it, and to give back when we're too full or burdened. She is courage and compassion and defense, the building up and stripping away, the life and death in the cycles of our growth.

IV-AWAKENING

V-DIVINITY'S SPENDOR

The Goddess is returning, and we should welcome that gracious mother, that female face of God -not because God is not male, but because God is also female. We have celebrated the female deity through time and across cultures. To regain our balance, we need her back.

I-CHORUS

VI-RAINBOW WOMAN

I-CHORUS

VII-THE LIGHT IS IN US

VIII-ONE GOD

Text from "The Goddess Within" by Karen Scott Boates New Moon, February, 1990

EARTH-MOTHER:

Life on earth is a mirror of the order in the heavens. As above So below

> -Wiccan Law Oral Tradition

The mother of us all, The oldest of all,

hard,

splendid as rock whatever there is that is of the land it is she who nourishes it, it is the Earth that I sing.

-Homeric hymn to the earth (c. 1000 B.C.)

AWAKENING

Earth,the beautiful,rose up, Broad-bosomed,she that is the steadfast base Of all things. And fair Earth first bore The starry Heaven,equal to herself, To cover her on all sides and to be A home forever for the blessed gods.

-Hesiod (8th century B.C. Greek poet)

DIVINITY'S SPLENDOR

I am aware of the splendor that ties All the things of the earth with the things of the skies, Here in my body the heavenly heat, Here in my flesh the melodious beat Of the planets that circle Divinity's feet.

One vision I see clear as life before me,that the ancient mother has awakened once more, sitting on her throne rejuvenated,more glorious than ever. Proclaim her to all the world with the voice of peace and benediction.

She is slowly finding us and we are quietly everywhere.

-Angela Morgan (1874-1957) American poet,lecturer,&writer "KInship"

> -Vivekananda (1863-1902) Indian yogi "the Mystics"

-Merlin Stone, b.1931 American sculptor,writer,&teacher "Address to the Bloomington Festival and Spirituality Conference"

RAINBOW WOMAN

I am the woman who holds up the sky. The rainbow runs through my eyes. The sun makes a path to my womb. My thoughts are in the shape of clouds But my words are yet to come.

-Poem of the Ute Indians "Warcry on a Prayerfeather"

THE LIGHT IS IN US

Because I know I am made from this earth,as my mother's hands were made from this earth,as her dreams come from this earth and all that I know...speaks to me through this earth and I long to tell you,you who are earth too, and listen as we speak to each other of what we know: the light is in us.

> -Susan Griffin, b.1944 American waitress,switchboard operator,teacher, editor,writer,and prizewinning poet "Women and Nature"

ONE GOD

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All Gods are One God, all Goddesses are One Goddess, and there is One Initiator -Dion Fortune 20th-century British writer