

ALPHA AND OMEGA
30th ANNIVERSARY RECORDING

Music by Adrian Snell
Words and adaptations by Phil Thomson with Adrian Snell

GOD'S CASE AGAINST MANKIND

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2. THE NATIONS RAGE AND FALL (A. Snell)
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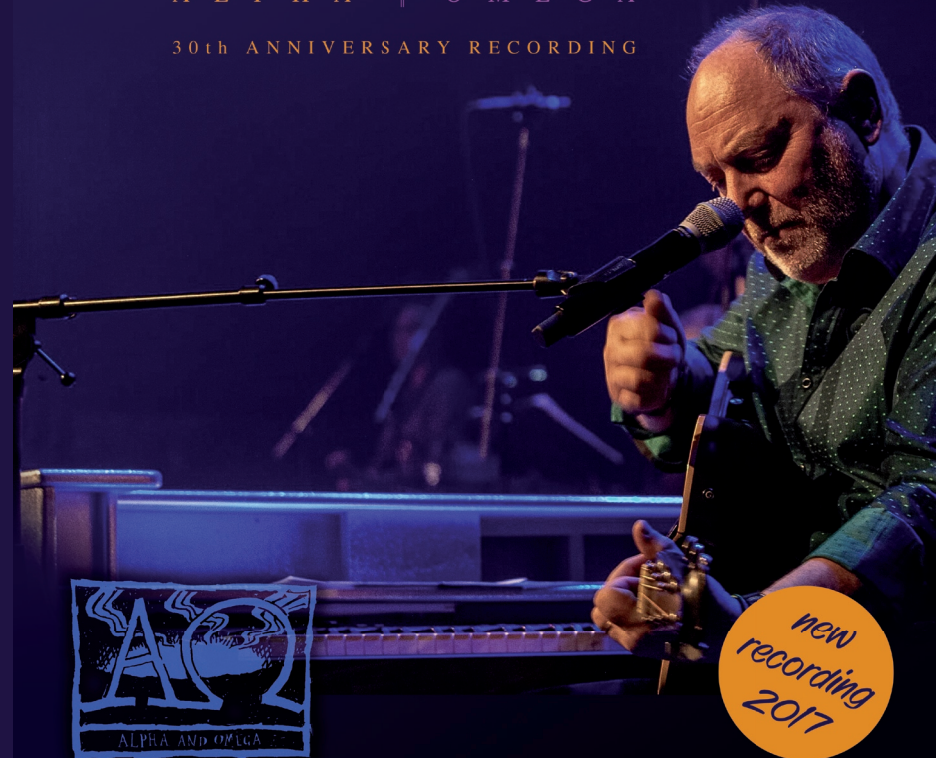
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A D R I A N S N E L L
A L P H A + O M E G A
30th ANNIVERSARY RECORDING



'Alpha and Omega' was first performed in Jerusalem, March 1986.

The album was released a few months later and then began an extraordinary period of years during which Alpha and Omega was performed worldwide in response to invitations from people in many countries; people who immediately understood the relevance and timeliness of this work and of its themes for their own nations and communities.

Choirs, national and local, were formed wherever we went with the result that literally thousands of people had not only attended a concert, but had also been directly involved in the performances as singers.

Quite literally within weeks of the Jerusalem première it had become very clear that Alpha and Omega was truly for its time; people wanted to hear it and, more significantly, were willing to listen to and face its challenges.

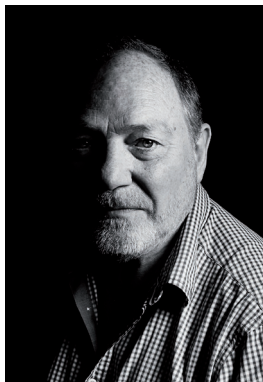
Well, equally unexpected for me, in the last couple of years an increasing number of requests, challenges and invitations have been received to perform Alpha and Omega again. The more time I spent revisiting the songs, the more I understood this groundswell of feeling - that this work has as much to say in 2017 as it did in 1986. The music, the songs, the themes and challenges could just as easily have been written for our times.

And so it was that we committed to a series of Alpha and Omega concerts in October 2016. Importantly, I was in no doubt that we needed to renew the work musically too. This led to the decision to make a completely new recording which would be based on the live concerts and then completed in the studio in the skilled production hands of Dave Bainbridge, who had also been a co-producer of the original album. I am truly thrilled by the result!

Of course, when you base a new recording on a series of live concerts you take some risks. However, in every respect these risks have proven totally justifiable - this is all thanks to the musicians and singers who, 30 years on, so wonderfully brought Alpha and Omega to life again on concert stages in The Netherlands.

You will, of course, see their names in the credits section of these notes. But please believe me when I say that none of these are just names to me. Each of these fine, passionate, musicians and singers are the reason for this very special recording sounding as I know it does: beautiful, authentic, timeless.

Shalom,
Adrian



Consultation: Leon van Steensel

Live sound Alpha and Omega concerts: Wilco Koudijs/Alpha Audio & Light BV

Concerts organization and promotion: Events4Christ

Alpha and Omega was first performed at: The Binyanei Ha'Ooma, Jerusalem, Israel
on March 26th 1986

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Original illustrations: James Kessell

Photography: Eelco Noortman, Peter Mulder and Dominika Nachowiak

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Every project, every album, particularly of this scale, involves people who are willing to give an enormous amount of themselves to bring it to fruition. I sincerely hope I have acknowledged all of them.

There is one person, however, who I need to acknowledge in a different way. This is Natasja Gorlee, who is my PA, my encourager, my challenger, and most of all my friend.

I can honestly say that this album would not exist without her.

Natasja, from the depths of my heart THANKYOU!

Adrian



Lead vocal and piano: Adrian Snell

'Child of Darkness' (and additional solo vocals) sung by: Sera van der Vijver

Keyboards and keyboard programming,

additional electric and acoustic guitars: Dave Bainbridge

Drums, percussion, solo violin and viola, ensemble strings: Frank Van Essen

Saxophones, flutes and tin whistle: David Fitzgerald

Bass guitars and stringed bass: Mark Dekkers

Electric and acoustic guitars: Elisa Krijgsman

Second violin: Peter Van Essen

Guitar solo on 'Guns of Peace' introduction: Neil Costello

The Choir Company, directed and conducted by: Maarten Wassink

Core choir: Cynthia v/d Bovenkamp, Marlies Bruins, Kees Grobecker,

Ella Hol, Chesron Ledes, Esther v/d Leeden,

Danielle Schaap, Mariëtte van 't Veld, Daan v/d Vlist

Choir arrangements developed and adapted by: Dave Bainbridge

Kees Grobecker

Maarten Wassink

Original choir arrangements: Noel Tredinnick

Recorded between October 2016 and May 2017

Live recordings made at: Zwolle, Veenendaal, Rotterdam,

Recording engineer: Jan Pronk/TCC Studios

Additional recording, editing and mixing: Dave Bainbridge at Open Sky Studio

Mastering: Nigel Palmer at Lowland Mastering

Produced and arranged by: Dave Bainbridge with additional ideas from
David Fitzgerald, Frank Van Essen, Adrian Snell

Executive Producer: Natasja Gorlee

Executive co-producers through crowdfunding: Amanda and Andrew Davies, Gianfranco and
Haulwen Piccirillo
Bert van der Heide



KADDISH FOR BERGEN-BELSEN



For your part in making this recording possible, from the heart: thank you!

Christoph Aebi
Paul Alkazraji
David Allen
Alison Anderson
Ewout Arentsen
GertJan Aversch
David Bacon
Henrik Badsted
Adam Bajkowski
Tegid Bard
Mr Timothy D. Barfoot
Paul Bellingham
Irene and Rob Bendell
Francis Best
Charles and Pat Betts
Gea Bijl
Jacques Bijl
Joel Billinton
Philip Birtwistle
Neil Bishop
Irene de Boer-Edelbroek
Jonny Boston
Richard H. Boulton
Colin Bradley
Jamie Brewster
Hemmo Brink
Elizabeth Brown
Marc Brunet
Paul Burges
Eve Byles
Paul Cameron
Graham Carter
Rev J. Cheverton
Sharon Clark
Rod Clayton
Andrew Cleaton
Yvonne Conroy
Douglas Constable

Cecile and
John Cragg
Donald Curtis
Stephen Dailly
Alistair Dale
Keri Degg
Allister Dickson
Di Dobson
Mark Dormer
Roger Driver
Tim Edwards
Tom Eisenlöffel
Frank van Essen
David Faulkner
Ann Faulkner
Graham Field
Tim Finch
Rodger Fisher
David Fitzgerald
Penny F. Flynn
Deborah Foat
Charm Foster
Robert Francis
Lars Frederiksen
Mrs. Rosemary Freeman
Lorenz Gasser
Bruce Goatly
Jan Graham
Peter Gunstone
Anne Hamilton
Emch Hansres
Richard Harper
John Hattam
Paul Heffer
Louis Hemmings
Steven Robert Hill
Uwe Hoeft
Uwe Holz

Barry Howard
Nicolette and
Marco Hulsbergen
Thorsten John
Will Johnston
Jos de Jong
Terry Kendall
Inge Kieboom
Graham King
Sebastian and
Sabine Köhler
Jos Koman
Gerlof Koopmans
Matthijs Koops
Emile Kop
John Kreuz
Oliver Kubetzko
Jean-Daniel von Lerber
Hilary Long
Theo Lustig
Jeff Marshall
Mairi M. Martin
Jez Mason
David G. Mattocks
Rob Mayes
Steve McCurdy
John McCurdy
Bob McDade
Andrew Mellor
Peter Midgley
Jeremy Morgan
Peter Mulder
Stefan Nuess
Christopher B. Olson
Armando Pagliacci
Jane Parker
John Parkinson
Johann Parrot

David Pilkington
Cor Prakken
Jo Press
Darren Prince
F.J. Pronk
Robert Quarton
Ton de Raad
David Rawlings
Andrew Rayner
Tim Reddish
Ian Rees
Paul Rees
Steve Rhodes
Ray Riethmeier
Cheryl Roberts-Gawen
Stephen Robinson
John Rodgers
Bert Rothkugel
Tony Russell
Greg Ryan
Helen Saxton
Danielle Schaap
Katrín Schulze
Paul Skuce
Robert Slade
James Sloots
Brian P. Smith
Paul Smith
Ryan Snell and
Farah Mokdad
Peter Spargo
Ian Spencer
Itie ter Steege
Pieter Steenhuis
Jo-Ann Stockwell
Henning Strunk
Rob Taylor
Rinaldo Tempo

Laurence and
Philippe Thueler
James Tomlin
Stefan van der Veer
Mariëlle van 't Veld
David R. Vickers
Ernst-Jan Visscher
Simon Ward
Mike Warne
Miss Julia Heather
Wassell
Jon Webb-Peploe
Jens Weigel
Dirk Weippert
Ian White
Martin Widgery
Peter S. Williams
Chris Willmott
John Wilson
Robin Windsor
Michael J. Winstanley
T.H. v.d. Woestijne

And a very special
thankyou to Leon Van
Stensel for his advice,
patience, expertise and
kindness at all stages
of this!

ALPHA AND OMEGA (THE BEGINNING AND THE END)



And when I saw him I fell down to the ground
He laid his hand upon me, he filled me with his power
He said "Be not afraid, I am the living one who died
Recieve this revelation and take it to my bride"

I heard the voices singing forth as one
"Holy, holy, holy, glory to the Lamb
Worthy is the Lord who was and is and is to come
For you created all things and now your work is done"

So rejoice, the Holy City comes
Oh rejoice, the new Jerusalem
Oh rejoice, be ready now
He comes to take his bride
He is Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end

Oh rejoice, the Holy City comes
Oh rejoice, the new Jerusalem
Oh rejoice, be ready now
He's coming to take his bride
He is Alpha and Omega, he's alive

Oh rejoice, the Holy City comes
Oh rejoice, the new Jerusalem
Oh rejoice, be ready now
He comes to take his bride
He is Alpha and Omega, the
beginning and the end

Oh rejoice, the Holy City comes
Oh rejoice, the new Jerusalem
Oh rejoice, be ready now
He's coming to take his bride
He is Alpha and Omega, he's alive

Oh rejoice, be ready now
He's coming to take his bride
He is Alpha and Omega
He's alive, he's alive, he's alive!

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THE NATIONS RAGE AND FALL

Why do the nations rage and fall
The people plot in vain against the Lord?
The kings of the earth they take their stand
The rulers gather together
Against the Lord and against his Chosen One
And in that day the Lord shall come
To humble those who cast aside His law
He lays their cities to the ground
The walls are trampled to dust
Under the feet of the poor and the oppressed
See how he comes to judge the people for their sins
O the earth will reveal the blood shed on her
She will cover her slain no longer
Hide, oh people, the Lord he burns with anger

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NOBODY LISTENS

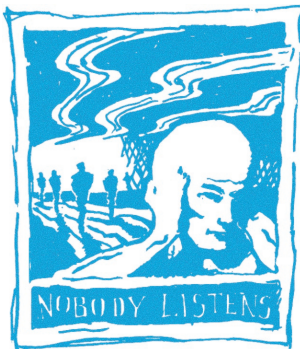
Too many people
With wandering hearts
Ask me for comfort
Then tear me apart
Too many people
With far away minds
Cling to their future
But don't look behind

Nobody listens, nobody listens

Too many people
With make-believe lives
Smile through their teeth
As they plunge in the knife
And I still feel the pain
As I knock on your door
When I ask 'May I enter?'
You answer 'What for?'

Nobody listens

Let me redeem you
Before it's too late
How long I have loved you
How long must I wait
For an answer, for an answer?



So many voices
But only one way
Turn to me now
And hear what I say
How can I be yours
If you hear but won't act?
Seems nobody listens
Without talking back
When will you listen?
Nobody listens...

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HE LIVES IN YOU

I am your God and I will hold you
Safe in my embrace
Child you have come to me in repentance
Now you will see my face
Victory comes, in Christ it is certain
And now he lives in you
Now in his name go into the nations
Children redeem my world

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AND IN THAT DAY



And in that day every knee shall bow
Every tongue confess that Christ is Lord
He has conquered death for evermore

And in that day all the earth shall see
All the world will know that Christ is King
He has conquered death and he is Lord

Earth shall hear his voice and feel his power
And his glory shall be seen in every land
For his kingdom shall reach out to every nation
And our King of Kings
Shall reign over all the world

And in that day Zion shall rejoice
For the Word of God shall be made known
As his Word flows from Jerusalem

And in that day every tongue shall praise
All creation rise to greet their King
Jesus Christ is risen and he is Lord

Earth shall hear his voice and feel his power
And his glory shall be seen in every land
For his kingdom shall reach out to every nation

And our King of Kings
Shall reign over all the world
And our King of Kings
Shall reign over all the world

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MESSIAH MASK (PRETENDER TO MY THRONE)/I AM YOUR GOD

Golden age of idols
Promises of peace
The fragrance of a flower
To bring your soul release
You drink its perfume
It withers and is gone
This man will deceive you
Pretender to my throne

All is peace and beauty
The air of lies is sweet
You run to his message
And worship at his feet
Oh do not touch his garments
Despair is on his breath
This man will deceive you
A minister of death

Messiah mask, angels of light
They'll turn your heart to stone
When will you see that I am yours
and you are mine alone

Why must you have your heroes
Why must you have your stars
So close to heaven
And yet so far
Don't swallow what he tells you
There's poison in his eyes
This man will destroy you
With all-embracing lies



Messiah mask, angels of light
They'll turn your heart to stone
When will you see that I am yours
And you are mine alone
Messiah mask, angels of light
They'll turn your heart to stone
When will you see that I am yours
And you are mine alone

I am your God, I am your God
No other name shall have your praise
I'll raise you up when you bow down
In true submission to my ways
In true submission to my ways

And you who swear by Jesus
Do you know who he is?
The hope of your salvation
You betray him with a kiss
You follow any master
Who says there is no cost
Until your heart is broken
Until your soul is lost

Messiah mask, angels of light
They'll turn your heart to stone
When will you see that I am yours
And you are mine alone
Messiah mask, angels of light
They'll turn your heart to stone
When will you see that I am yours
And you are mine alone

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GUNS OF PEACE

A part of me
A world so full of wonder
Out of my heart
I poured my love for you
In earth and sky
In sun and rain and thunder
A part of me
I gave my world to you

I washed with tears
The earth on which you trample
A song of love
That turned your pain to you
Look at you now
So blind to my example
My lovely world
You're rushing to destroy

The walls of fear
Which kill the hope of nations
The scream of death
Which pierces through the womb
How can you hear
The voice of your salvation
With empty hearts
Yet say you have no room?



With fists of iron
And eyes which show no mercy
You hold in chains
The life I freely gave
My children starve
While you grow fat on plenty
And open wounds
And ever open graves

In silent pain
The guns of peace are raging
What have you done
To turn my love to this?
I ask you now
To cease the war you're waging
And spread my love
Wherever life exists

I ask you now
To cease the war you're waging
And offer love
Wherever life exists

I ask you now
To cease the war you're waging
And offer love
Wherever life exists

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STREAMS IN THE DESERT/AND THEY SHALL PROPHECY

Cry, cry for the harvest
Behold out of your pain
My seed shall grow and multiply
And I shall answer your call and set you free
And bring you home
For as my children sow in tears
So shall they reap with songs of joy

Streams spring from the desert
For I will pour water on a thirsty land
The lame running like deer shall leap for joy
They shall rejoice
The eyes of the blind shall open wide
I shall pour water on your land

For I shall pour my Spirit on all people
And I shall shower blessings on the nations
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy
I'll do a new thing in your lives

And they shall prophesy
And they shall prophesy
And my people shall be saved
For those who call upon my name
Shall witness to the world



And they shall prophesy
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And my people shall be saved
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Shall witness to the world

For those who call upon my
Shall witness to the world

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LORD HAVE MERCY



We your people
Bow before you
Broken and ashamed
We have turned on your creation
Crushed the life you freely gave

Lord have mercy
On your children
Weeping and in fear
For you are our God and Saviour

Father in your love draw near
Father in this hour of danger
We will turn to you
O forgive us, Lord forgive us
And our lives and faith renew

Pour your Holy Spirit on us
Set our hearts aflame
All shall see your power in the nations
May we bring glory to your name
May we bring glory to your name

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NO ESCAPE



From the sun in the west to the moon in the east
The crumb of the beggar, the wealth of the feast
For priest and for worshipper, master and slave
From morning of birth to the night of the grave
No escape

Kings of oppression fall like a reed
An end to division and hatred and greed
The wisdom of evil, the power of pride
See the mighty in terror with nowhere to hide
No escape

There is no escape, there is no escape
From the hand of the Lord laying waste to the earth,
For the guilt of her sin, for her blindness and rage
For the rape of the earth at the end of the age
For the darkness and pain, for creation defiled
For my world running wild
No escape
For the darkness and pain, for creation defiled
For my world running wild

Sand for your cities and ashes from stone
Blood like a river and ice from the sun
The wither of forests that burn with the rain
The melting of bones from the earth you have stained
No escape

There is no escape, there is no escape
From the hand of the Lord laying waste to the earth
From the guilt of her sin, for her blindness and rage
For the rape of the earth at the end of the age
For the darkness and pain, for creations defiled
For my world running wild
For the darkness and pain, for creations defiled
For my world running wild
For the darkness and pain, for creations defiled
For my world running

No escape

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CHILD OF DARKNESS

Born to love me, pure in my eyes
Oh my child, I held you close to my side
And with a father's loving care
I made a world for you and I to share

Child of darkness, blind to my light
You have turned against me into the night
How long will you remain untrue?
Far from the shelter of my wing
So far from the love I long to bring to you

Come oh children hear what I say
For my heart is open if you obey
All that is mine I freely give
Yet if you turn and spurn my love
My sword shall fall, you shall not live in me

Child of sorrow, living in fear
If you call upon me I shall be near
Come, let us reason, you will see
Crimson that flows till white as snow
For though you have sinned my love will set you free

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I AM THE WAY

The Spirit of the Lord he is upon me now
I'm chosen to bring good news to the poor
Sent to restore the sight to the blind
Offering freedom to those who are bound

I am in the Father and the Father is in me
I came down from heaven that the world may believe
I laid down my life that you may be forgiven
But rejoice, my people - for I am risen!

I am the Way, I am the Truth
I am the Life, I am the Resurrection
If you come to me with your burdens
I will give you rest
Children of sorrow, living in fear
Call upon me for I am near
If you will turn and follow me
I'll lead you on and you shall live in me

Oh the sun will be darkened
And the moon will not shine
The stars they will fall and there shall be signs
But the Son of Man is coming in glory and power
To gather his chosen for this is the hour

I am the Way, I am the Truth
I am the Life, I am the Resurrection
If you come to me with your burdens
I will give you rest
Ani HaDerech, Ani HaEmet
Ani HaChaim, Ani Tchiat HaMetim
If you come to me with your burdens
I will give you rest.



Children of sorrow, living in fear
Call upon me for I am near
If you will turn and follow me
I'll lead you on and you shall live in me

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MAN OF SORROWS

Behold the man of sorrows
Rejected and despised
Bruised and broken by our sin
The perfect sacrifice

See, all creation turns on him
In anger and in scorn
No light, no beauty in his face
Twisted, crushed and torn

Like a lamb
In silence
He was slaughtered and cut down
And through his anguish
And our guilt
His blood has stained the ground

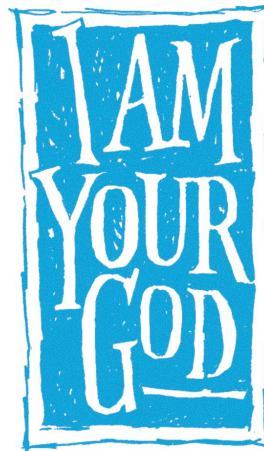
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And our guilt
His blood has stained the ground

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I AM YOUR GOD



To you who call me Father
When will you face the truth?
Luke-warm and divided
Naked and ashamed
Why are you silent
Struck dumb by unbelief?
Will you show compassion
On the world for which I grieve?

You hunger for the power
To see my kingdom grow
Yet while you trade your doctrines
My Spirit cannot flow
The world has come upon you
Oh, set yourselves apart
The healing of the nations
Flows from obedient hearts

I am your God, I am your God
No other name shall have your praise

I am your God, I am your God
No other name shall have your praise
I'll raise you up when you bow down
In true submission to my ways
In true submission to my ways

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