



# *Oh Freedom / Circle of Life*

T&M: Trad. / Tim Rice, Elton John  
Bearbeitung: Georg Weilguny

Oh freedom, oh freedom,  
Oh freedom over me.  
And before I'd be a slave  
I'd be buried in my grave  
And go home to my Lord and be free

It's the circle of life  
And it moves us all  
Through despair and hope  
Through faith and love  
Till we find our place  
On the path unwinding  
In the circle  
The circle of life

*Ein sogenanntes "Crossover"-Stück, weil es einen Gospel-Song mit einem Pop-Song vermischt. Eines Tages entdeckte ich, dass diese beiden Lieder zusammenpassen und sich ideal ergänzen: Das „afrikanische“ Arrangement aus dem Musical „König der Löwen“ verstärkt die Wirkung des „afro-amerikanischen“ Spirituals, das von dem Wunsch nach Freiheit handelt: „And before I'd be a slave, I'd be buried in my grave and go home to my lord, to be free“*



# Shackles (feat. Gospel @ More)

T&M: Erica Atkins

**Take the shackles off my feet  
so I can dance  
I just wanna praise you,  
I just wanna praise you  
You broke the chains  
now I can lift my hands  
And I'm gonna praise you  
I'm gonna praise you**

In the corners of my mind  
I just can't seem to find  
a reason to believe  
That I can break free  
Cause you see I have been  
down for so long  
Feel like the hope is gone  
But as I lift my hands, I understand  
That I should praise you through  
my circumstance

**Take the shackles ...**

Everything that could go wrong  
All went wrong at one time  
So much pressure fell on me  
I thought I was gonna lose my mind  
But I know you wanna see  
If I will hold on through these trials  
But I need you to lift this load  
Cause I can't take it no more

**Take the shackles ...**

(Been) through the fire and the rain  
Bound in every kind of way  
(But) God has broken every chain  
So let me go right now

**Take the shackles ...**

*"Mary Mary" machten dieses Lied bekannt. Die wunderschöne Metapher, die „Fesseln von den Füßen zu lösen, um tanzen zu können“, verbunden damit, dass ER die „Ketten gesprengt“ hat, ist in bester Gospel-Song-Tradition geschrieben und hat bis heute nichts an Bedeutung verloren. Damals waren es „echte Ketten“ um die Füße der afro-amerikanischen Sklaven, heute sind es die Fesseln der Verpflichtungen, Repressalien und Unterdrückungen, mit denen wir tagtäglich leben und uns oft nicht davon befreien können... Tanzen bedeutet Leichtigkeit, Unabhängigkeit, mit sich „im Reinen sein“ und Ausdruck der Lebensfreude.*

## *In Your Hands*

T&M: Georg Weilguny

Father, let me talk to you  
you've been so good to me,  
I know and that's why  
I believe in you – yes I do  
But father, can you see me now  
falling down on my knees and pray  
Tonight I'm hopeless and doubtful and I  
don't know what to say –  
can I give it

In your hands, in your hands  
In your hands – in your hands

I tried so hard, I fell so deep  
and I lost control – and I'm sorry  
I thought that I could handle it but  
I missed my goal – now I worry  
I failed and took the wrong way now  
there's no way out for me  
I'm helpless and broken-hearted 'cause I  
was too blind to see –  
that it's all

In your hands, in your hands  
In your hands – in your hands

Father, give me power to hold on  
Father, hold my hand  
and make me strong  
I'm begging for forgiveness  
and I hope it's not too late  
there's nothing left to do for me  
and I give it up to you – my fate,  
I give it ...

In your hands, in your hands  
In your hands – in your hands  
In your hands, in your hands  
In your hands – in your hands

The whole world, our lives  
and our fate  
Our dreams, our hopes  
In darkness and desperation  
In sadness and fear

*Der Titelsong. Wenn wir erkennen, dass wir eine Situation in unserem Leben „nicht unter Kontrolle haben“ (obwohl wir das glaubten), wird uns oft schmerzlich bewusst, dass es eben Dinge gibt, die wir nicht beeinflussen können. In solchen Momenten ist es besser, die Dinge loszulassen und zu übergeben – in HIS hands ...*



## Medley / He Reigns

T&M: Kirk Franklin

Our God is an awesome God  
He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom, power and love  
Our God is an awesome God

Our God is an awesome God  
He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom, power and love  
Our God is an awesome God

You're marvellous and you're glorious  
Your love has made me victorious  
You took away the fear in us  
Now we praise you cause you,  
you delivered us

There ain't no stoppin' us (no)  
Devil there ain't no blockin' us (no)  
Come on and clap your  
hands with us  
Like this, like that  
He reigns (4x)  
He reigns  
He reigns  
He reigns  
Forever and ever ...

*Kirk Franklin ist einer der größten Gospel-Stars unserer Zeit. Seine Kompositionen sind intensiv und ausdrucksstark, seine CD-Produktionen zeitgemäß und richtungsweisend. Für jeden Chorsänger sind diese Lieder Herausforderung (beim Einstudieren) und Freude (beim Singen) zugleich. In diesem Stück kombiniert er zwei Lieder und einen südamerikanischen Rhythmus – viel Spaß beim Tanzen!*



# Powerful

T&M: Georg Weilguny

I was so lost  
Couldn't find my way  
And I really really tried to live my life  
Day after day  
All I was longing for  
Was all I never knew  
(But) then he came over me  
And I realized that I have to  
break out and see

**He's my rock, my salvation,  
from nation to nation  
the name of God I will proclaim  
I will lift up my heart,  
I will lift up my soul,  
I will bless the Lord's holy name  
I will sing to the Lord  
and I'm longing for words  
to describe what his name  
means to me  
He is wonderful, powerful, faithful  
and merciful  
God let your light shine on me**

Night after night I was trying to find  
I was trying to find a way into the light  
But I was too blind  
I did so wrong until he did appear  
He made me strong  
Now I'm singing his song and  
I want him to hear

**He's my rock, my salvation ...**

He is powerful **(powerful)** ...  
He is powerful **(powerful)** ...  
That's what he is to me

*„Powerful“ ist ein Lied, das ich den Solisten der CD, Ingrid Diem und Michael Kellner, gewissermaßen „auf den Leib“ komponiert habe: Beide haben ausdrucksfähige und facettenreiche Stimmen, zusammen ergänzen und verstärken sie sich noch. Wenn dann noch der LONGFIELD GOSPEL CHOIR zum Refrain anhebt, wird diese Stärke vervielfacht – „powerful“ eben ...*

# *Hallelujah, Praise His Name*

T&M: Georg Weilguny

He´s almighty – *he´s the mighty God*  
He´s so powerful – *he´s the mighty God*  
I will give him glory for what  
he´s done for me  
Hallelujah, praise his name

He´s so friendly – *he´s the friendly God*  
He smiles at me – *he´s the friendly God*  
The stars and the moon -  
he let it shine for me  
Hallelujah, praise his name

**Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
Halle – lujah!  
Praise his name**

He´s so patient – *he´s the loving God*  
He forgives me – *He´s the loving God*  
His endless love – he will give it to me  
Hallelujah, praise his name

He´s so far away – *God is everywhere*  
He´s so close to me –  
*God is everywhere*  
Whenever I need him  
he will be at my side  
Hallelujah, praise his name

**Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
Halle – lujah!  
Praise his name**

**„Ha – llelujah, Ha – llelujah,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
Hallelujah!“**

**//: Hallelujah, praise his name ://  
Praise his name !**

**//: Hallelujah, praise his name ://  
Praise his name !**

*Ein Loblied im „Uptempo-Gospel-Style“. Der mitreißende Rhythmus und das „Vorsing-Nachsing-Schema“ sind typische Gospel-Elemente, die in amerikanischen Kirchen seit Jahrzehnten zu begeistern wissen. Ich habe mir erlaubt, in dieser Komposition besagte Elemente zu verwenden und mit dem überraschenden „Hallelujah-Zitat“ aus Händels „Messias“ im Mittelteil gewissermaßen einen Rückbezug zur europäischen Tradition herzustellen – und diesen der amerikanischen Gospel-Tradition entgegenzusetzen. Beide Stile haben meine Arbeit bis heute geprägt und beeinflusst.*



# *My Soul Says Yes*

T&M: Deitrick Heddon

My soul says yes to the  
Will of the Lord  
I give my will over  
Yeah, yeah

Let me just begin by saying  
My life is in your hands  
You know anything you ask me  
I will do  
Your wish is my command

I will trust you Lord  
With all my heart, my mind,  
my body and soul  
I want you to know  
And I wanna say yes

My soul says yes ...

I present my body  
As a living sacrifice  
Holy and acceptable  
Only onto Christ

I will trust you Lord  
With all my heart, my mind,  
my body and soul  
I want you to know  
That my soul says yes

My soul says yes ...

Lord, not my will  
Not my will but yours be done yeah  
Your will, your will, yeah, yeah

*Ein weiteres Loblied auf dieser CD mit einer schönen Metapher: Nicht der Geist, nicht der Körper, sondern die Seele („Soul“) sagt „Yes“. Die Zeile „Not my will but yours be done“ findet sich in leicht abgewandelter Form im „Vater Unser“-Gebet wieder: Dein Wille geschehe. LONGFIELD GOSPEL lernte dieses Lied auf seiner zweiten Polen-Reise 2006 kennen.*

# *My Life, My Love, My All*

T&M: Kirk Franklin

My hands were made to worship you  
My heart, my king, it beats for you  
Oh lamb, so true, I surrender to you  
My life, I give you, my love, I give you, my all

Your touch, your kiss, your grace, to me  
is deeper than my soul can see  
My purpose, it changed,  
when I called out your name  
My life, I give you, my love, I give you, my all

Your touch, your kiss, your grace, to me  
is deeper than my soul can see  
My purpose, it changed,  
when I called out your name  
My life, I give you, my love, I give you, my all

My past has been erased with just  
one touch from you  
My clouds, my rain,  
my pain has changed,  
your blood has made me new

Oh lamb, so true, I surrender to you  
My life, I give you, my love, I give you, my all

And when this world has come to end  
and paradise with you begins,  
Well done! You'll say  
when I see your face.  
My life, I give you, my love, I give you, my all

My past has been erased with just  
one touch from you  
My clouds, my rain,  
my pain has changed,  
your blood has made me new

Oh lamb, so true, I surrender to you  
Oh lamb, so true, I surrender to you  
Oh lamb, so true, I surrender to you  
My life, I give you, my love, I give you, my all  
Jesus, you are  
My life, I give you, my love, I give you, my all  
Jesus, you are  
My life, I give you, my love, I give you, my all

*Dieses Lied ist nicht nur wunderschön, sondern es hat auch einen ergreifenden Text.*

*Es handelt davon, sich ganz hinzugeben, in Demut und Liebe, den Glauben wahrhaftig zu leben und am Ende des Lebens selbst seinem Schöpfer gegenüberzutreten – im „Paradies“, um für unsere guten Taten belohnt zu werden. „Well done, you say, when I see your face“*



# He's Good to Me

T&M: Georg Weilguny

I know that he loves me  
I know that he loves me  
I know that he loves me  
Because  
I tell you a story  
Of mercy and glory  
It all really happened to me  
and now I see

I know that he loves me  
I know that he loves me  
I know that he loves me  
Because  
I tried to deny him  
I tried to forget him  
He never forgot me because  
he is my friend

Because he's good,  
good, good to me  
Because he's good,  
good, good to me  
Because he's good,  
good, good to me  
(To me, He's been so good to me)

I know that he loves me  
I know that he loves me  
I know that he loves me  
Because  
My pain and my sorrows  
My grief for tomorrow  
He all took it away, away from me

Because he's good,  
good, good to me (3x)  
(To me, He's been so good to me)

I know that he loves me  
I know that he loves me  
I know that he loves me  
Because  
He sent me an angel  
A guardian angel  
A beautiful angel  
(That's right) To take care of me  
Solo

I know that he loves me  
I know that he loves me  
I know that he loves me  
Because  
He's good to me

*Erneut kombiniere ich in diesem Lied das "Vorsing-Nachsing-Schema" mit einem mitreißenden Rhythmus – dem "Shuffle". Die Stilelemente des Blues standen Pate beim Text und bei der Melodie-Gestaltung, jedoch geht die Geschichte – im Gegensatz zu den meisten Blues-Songs – gut aus.*



## *Forever*

T&M: Georg Weilguny

Got a letter in my hand (yeah)  
Which explains the reasons  
why my life did end  
After all this circumstances  
After loosing all my chances  
Cause I was so strong/And I did so  
wrong/And now they hate me and  
they judge me and they push me  
and they mock me/But they never  
really asked what's the truth behind  
Cause they're still holding on  
on a single mind/Without reflecting,  
without double-checkin',  
Cause it's easy to believe  
one is good, one is bad/  
so much black-or-white-thinking  
in so many people's head  
But there are two sides  
in every different story/  
And there are two versions  
about the truth in every story  
But it's also a truth that  
the loudest gets the  
glory/And the other one  
should better run

Where do you go  
when there's no place to go?  
Where do you run  
when there's no place to hide?

**He loves you forever,  
The Lord he will never  
forget you forever,  
He loves you no matter,**

**Just think of a better  
solution together,  
The Lord he will never  
forget you and leave you alone**

So you run, Under pressure  
And the shadows of the night/  
They're watching you/  
And you know it's true/  
And you cry for help/  
Desperation is your only friend/  
Because there's none in this world  
who will understand that your heart  
and your soul need a helping hand/  
And you hate what you did/But more  
you hate what they did to you/  
And you're desperately trying  
to get through/In your mind,  
in your head, in your heart,  
in your soul/  
There are voices who are calling you  
to loose control  
But you won't give up  
Oh no, not yet  
And you know to pull the trigger  
ain't the right way to forget  
But your guns are loaded  
with hate and disillusions  
And your aim is clear to get  
rid of this confusion  
Mummy and daddy are still crying  
for explanation -  
but you need salvation

Where do you go ...

**He loves you forever,  
The Lord he will never  
forget you forever,  
He loves you no matter,  
Just think of a better  
solution together,  
The Lord he will never  
forget you and leave you alone**

And you bleed, you are hurt  
You are digging through the dirt  
Of your wounded soul and a crying  
heart/While your dreams and your  
visions have been fallen apart  
And you see the pieces through a  
mirror of truth/In the moment you  
find out that there wasn't something  
good/It's all your fault,  
shame on you - yeah/  
No wonder everyone is blaming you  
One last opportunity except  
one last shot/Meaning to ask yourself  
the question „Are you ready or not?“  
Are you strong enough for the  
troubles just begun/Will you start  
to stand or will you start to run  
Will you start to hide  
in the darkness of the night/  
Or will you try to find a way  
into the light/What will you do?

I'm asking you/It's up to you

Where do you go ...

**He loves you forever,  
The Lord he will never  
forget you forever,  
He loves you no matter ...**

*Alle meine Kompositionen auf dieser CD sind persönlich. Trotzdem versuche ich immer, aus der Sicht des Autors, einen „überindividuellen Kontext“ herzustellen, damit sich auch andere Menschen mit meinen Liedern identifizieren können. Dieses ist vielleicht mein „persönlichstes Lied“, weil es Zorn, Schmerz, Glück und Hoffnung in sich vereint. Und vielleicht gerade deshalb auch das Lied mit den meisten Identifikationspunkten, weil wir alle diese Zustände kennen: die einen treffen uns manchmal hart und zwingen uns in die Knie, die anderen bereichern uns und machen uns glücklich und unser Leben schöner.*



# Perfect Praise

T&M: Brenda Moore

Oh Lord how excellent  
how excellent  
how excellent  
How excellent  
is thy name

Oh Lord how excellent  
how excellent  
how excellent  
How excellent  
is thy name

There is none like you  
none like you  
none like you  
How excellent  
is thy name

There is none like you  
none like you  
none like you  
How excellent  
is thy name

In all the earth  
In all the earth  
In all the earth  
In all the earth  
Jesus excellent  
Is Thy name

Every knee shall bow  
And every tongue confess  
that he is Lord  
Jesus excellent  
Is thy name

*Dieses Lied lernten wir auf unserer ersten Polen-Reise (2005) kennen und ich nahm es sofort ins Repertoire des Choir. Das beeindruckende Finale des Lieds besteht aus einem sogenannten „dreifachen Kontrapunkt“ – das sind mehrere Melodien gleichzeitig, die einander ergänzen – eine Kunstform, die auch schon in der Barock-Musik großen Anklang fand. Johann Sebastian Bach verwendete ihn z.B. in seinen Chor- und Orgelwerken um „der Größe Gottes mit seinen Kompositionen gerecht zu werden“ ...Er hätte an „Perfect Praise“ seine Freude gehabt.*

## *You Got to Praise Him*

T&M: Georg Weilguny

Sing to the Lord and give praises to him  
Let all people know  
how good he has been  
Sing to the Lord and bless God's name  
Proclaim God's salvation  
from day to day

**Clap your hands, stomp your feet, move  
your body, feel the beat  
Say it loud, say it clear,  
'cause the Lord he will hear  
When there is singing and dancing  
to praise his name – praise his name**

**Just get up from your seat,  
you will get what you need  
Let me take you by the hand,  
'cause the Lord is your friend  
That's why we're singing and dancing to  
praise his name – praise his name**

You got to praise him with  
songs of praise  
And you got to praise him  
with your heart and your soul  
Rejoice in the Lord,  
rejoice and proclaim  
Rejoice and give thanks  
to God's holy name

**Clap your hands, stomp your feet ...  
Just get up from your seat ...**

Wherever you are  
and whatever you do  
The Lord he is good  
and he takes care of you  
Whenever you need him  
in anger and pain  
He'll always be there  
when you call out his name

You got to praise him - you got ...

**Clap your hands, stomp your feet ...  
Just get up from your seat ...**

*Der 95. und 96. Psalm und die „soulige“ Stimme von Michael Kellner waren die Inspirations-Quellen für diese Komposition: „Let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise“. Beachtenswert ist auch das „Chor-Finale“, in dem die einzelnen Stimmen des LONGFIELD GOSPEL CHOIR immer stärker ansteigen, um dann in einen letzten Schlussrefrain zu gipfeln.*

# *Precious Lord / You've Got a Friend*

T&M: Carole King / Thomas A. Dorsey

When you're down and troubled  
and you need some love and care  
And nothin', nothin' is goin' right  
Close your eyes and meditate on him  
and soon he will be there  
To brighten up,  
the Lord will brighten up your darkest night

**Precious Lord, take my hand  
Lead me on, let me stand  
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm worn**

**Through the storm, through the night  
Lead me on to the light  
Take my hand precious Lord, he's my friend**

You just call out my name  
and you know wherever you are  
He will be there to see you again  
Winter, spring, summer or fall  
All you have to do is call  
And he'll be there  
You've got a friend  
You've got a friend – in Jesus

*Ein weiteres "Crossover"-Stück: "Precious Lord" gilt als der erste Gospel-Song überhaupt. Der bekannte Jazz-Musiker Thomas Dorsey schrieb ihn 1932 nach dem tragischen Verlust seiner Frau und seiner Tochter durch einen Unfall und wendete sich von diesem Zeitpunkt an ausschließlich der Gospel-Musik zu. Er gilt als der „Vater der Gospelmusik“. Elvis Presley, Mahalia Jackson und viele andere Interpreten nahmen das Lied auf Schallplatte auf und machten es weltberühmt. „You've got a friend“ aus dem Jahr 1971 ist wahrscheinlich eine der bekanntesten Kompositionen von Carole King. Die Idee, die beiden Lieder miteinander zu verbinden, hörte ich erstmals auf einer Aufnahme von Aretha Franklin. Die „Queen of Soul“, wie sie gerne genannt wird, hat Ihre Wurzeln – wie so viele bekannte Pop-Sänger - in der Gospelmusik: Ihr Vater war ein bekannter Prediger, und sie sammelte Ihre ersten Auftritts-Erfahrungen in seiner Kirche.*