



Blake Eternal Life

Pappacena/Vezzani

*"If the doors of perception were cleansed,
everything would appear to man as it is: infinite."*

William Blake

William Blake was an engraver, illustrator, and above all, a poet, lived in the period between the end of the 700s and the beginning of the 800s. A free-spirited, provocative artist, elusive yet revolutionary, who redefined poetic language with themes, images, and a natural musicality that still impresses today.

“Blake has come to represent the idea of inner vision, where the artist expresses this vision not in the service of a patron,” explains art historian and Tate Gallery curator Martin Myrone, *“and this is why it remains important to think about him. Blake is creative freedom crystallised.”*

Blake was, in Myrone’s words, **one of the earliest ‘trans-media’ artists**. He was a visionary poet, and stands as a unique figure in the cultural landscape. Through his poetry and engravings— conceived as a single expressive unit — he crafted a fantastic universe that explores the deep sense of human being.

With [Blake Eternal Life](#) Giacomo Vezzani and Fabio Pappacena intend to pay homage to his world, by giving voice and body to his research through music: “We will tell about the visionary poet, William Blake, through his poems and images of his famous engravings, conceived by himself as an unbreakable expressive unit, that leads to the revelation. We intend to bring his fantasy world to life, and we will do it, by giving soul to his most beautiful poems, thoughts and aphorisms through music, because the poet himself sang them and composed them so that they could be sung.”

Inspired by *Songs of Innocence and of Experience*, Vezzani and Pappacena studied his opera omnia and composed modern pieces that preserve Blake's timeless essence. Born from an intimate musical dialogue between guitar and voice, the songs evoke the vitality and intensity of his verses, demonstrating that his message still resonates today.

Although frequently connected with the pre-romantic movement, William Blake was unclassifiable in a current context. As a poet, painter, and visionary artist, he forged an invented mythology and a complex philosophy.

The truth about men's apparent unhappiness, the loss and the pursuit of the authentic meaning of life, the voice of a lost childhood, which is the cradle of serenity: these are only some of the topics covered in such few and essential verses.

William Blake was convinced that by breaking one’s own laws, both social and religious, one comes to a self-awareness that can make us alienated even from pain and death itself. His talent never knew the popularity, at least during the period in which he lived, because the poet did not support the idea of compromise and had no interest in searching for a statement: he died in poverty and his entire work has been revalued in the centuries to come.



“Blake was not a philosopher in any sense of the term, yet he declared what is essential with a vigor, even a precision, that philosophy itself might envy.”

(George Betaille)

Music has been chosen by Vezzani and Pappacena as privileged means to explore Blake's visionary world. Through melodies and arrangements ranging from acoustic folk to electronica, Vezzani and Pappacena aim to create sonic environments that reflect the depth of his visions, driven by his work's evocative power.

To enrich this experience, Vezzani and Pappacena invited the visual artist Silvio Giordano and Gianluca Lagrotta to immerse themselves in Blake's visionary universe and be traversed by the evocative force of his verses and imagery. By doing that, Giordano and Lagrotta created visuals that accompany the performance and the songs, creating a new artistic synergy that reimagines Blake's work and establishes new connections and interpretations.

The project unfolds as a sonic journey. The compositions balance delicacy and intensity, respecting an essence which is both oneiric and visionary, in order to make Blake's inner world "tangible" and to attempt to comprehend its grandeur, without betraying his essence. The music - intertwines with his words- aims to renew the power of his imagination, making his poetry a vivid and pulsating experience.



Blake Eternal Life is a project created through the combination of poetry and music. Initially it was a ten-song album, featuring the poetry of William Blake; it evolved into a radio drama aired on Radio Rai 3 (Italy) and it is now a performance combining music, poetry, acting and video art, thought to present the visionary world of a poet who, thanks to his art, has become a prophet.

A **concert/show** conceived by two actor-musicians inspired by William Blake and his visions. On stage, the performance features four actors/musicians/singers: the authors Giacomo Vezzani and Fabio Pappacena, accompanied - sometimes alternating- by the voices of Elsa Bossi and Elena Nenè Barini.

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Credits + Info

Giacomo Vezzani Vocals/Keyboards/Programming

Fabio Pappacena _Vocals/Guitar

Elsa Bossi _Vocals

Nenè Barini _Vocals

Silvio Giordano _Visuals

Marco Bagnai _Light design

Gianluca Lagrotta _Logo Design&Compositing

Giacomo Pecchia _Set Design - Promotion

Teatro Del Carretto _ Production

MAT-Movimenti Artistici Trasversali _ Organization



Listen to the album's song:

[Blake](#)

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Watch the Videos:

[The Smile](#)

[Tyger](#)

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FB page [Blake Eternal Life](#)

Reviews of the project:

- Adriano Ercolani, Minima et moralia, 2018: <https://www.minimaetmoralia.it/wp/arte/eterna-william-blake/>
- <https://www.becrowdy.com/blake-eternallife-show>
- Teatro. Perinsala.it "Afferrando l'infinito" di Sharon Tofanelli, 2017: <https://teatro.persinsala.it/blake-eternallife-4/37039/>
- Antonio Mazzuca, Gufetto press, 2017 https://gufetto.press/articoli/blake_eternal_life_carrozzerie_not_ode_di_letizia/
- Flavio Talamonti, URLOWEB, 2015 <https://urloweb.com/cultura/musica-e-rumori-di-fondo/blake-pappacena-vezzani/>

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