

as adam by michael o'brien

'I see, I feel, hence I notice, I observe, and I think.' Barthes

prelude

masked mystical brutes misdiagnose the body as heterogenous depraved distinctions what of beauty? what of science?

i refute the score that soul is separate i refute the chord that mind is autonomous i refute the chorus that the body is independent

croon with me as one mind, body, soul you, me, sun

and night was new

night plays melodies of ancient hues night nourishes us with opaque fruits

i touch your hand and our hearts' beat in time

i kiss you in your immaculate form and you accept me in my perfect form

accepted me at your breast accepted me at your hearth

accepted me as work accepted me as mass

work

strike the earth in the morning chop the tree in the afternoon steer the water in the evening

and night you bathe my body and night you warm my body

and the son will do the same and his son and his and his

frame conducts the day

the city

it is the myth of society that calls existence to dwell in all these bodies

momentum exalts and excites our being

nothing moves faster than the city every sense wretched in advertisement eyes

the taste of being the sight of being the smell of being the touch of being the sound of being

and all this a million miles an hour dragging you from the breast to the sweetest myth of all

rest

to rest with you is my only desire

sing me the songs of your soil share with me the tongue of your father share with me the bread of your mother

stretch every mile of your country before me

every mountain every hill every lake every brook every body

reflect every shade of sky and every hue of every animal pelt for my eyes only

woman

the wind stirs the hair that rests on her tanned shoulders

that warmth that scent every freckle every crease

i map my flight in every line to wish the body into being

in the spring in the summer in the fall in the winter

for rest that grips every night for strength that stirs every dawn

man

it is the beard the visible distinction that strikes the man from woman and child

to come of age like harvest bloom to pass in time from blonde to grey

a story old and yet ever new

conclusion

with lips
chet made trumpet sing
with eyes
the natural world is revealed
with hands
michelangelo made stone sing
with breast
the world is nourished
and with the mind
body and soul are one