

CANTICLE

Freely inspired by Francesco of Assisi's Laudes Creaturarum



In *Vita secunda S. Francisci* (1246/1247) Giovanni da Celano declares that, before composing the *Laudes Creaturarum*, Francesco said: "*These creatures minister to our needs every day; without them we could not live and through them the human race greatly offends the Creator every time we fail to appreciate so great a blessing by not praising as we should the Creator and Dispenser of all these gifts. And sitting down he concentrated in his thoughts and then said: Most High, Almighty Good Lord...*"

Which *Laudes* would Francesco write today? Through what eyes would he look upon the earth and which reflections would he make?

The short film stems from these questions and recalls, while renewing it, the sublime, loving meditation of the Poor Man from Assisi. The enchantment of the beauty, of the wisdom and the power of all the natural elements - in which the Saint believed God's creative power expressed itself - is called back to our minds in the images. Like His words - with the obvious differences - the scenes of the film powerfully express praise and gratitude.

The CANTICO however does not hide the complexity of the contemporary situation: after almost eight centuries Francesco's exhortation appears to be even more necessary and urgent.

The Canticle of Creatures was created by a very ill and almost blind Man, however, the blindness of modern man - accompanied by his moral and spiritual deafness - seems to be far more serious as it is the origin of the immense disaster we have caused to our "Mother Earth".

We need to look on our present world with a renewed light of awareness. Only the firm and precise responsibility of every individual will make a new communion - based on respect, harmony, peace and solidarity - between man and nature, possible.

created and realized by anna kauber

www.articoltura.com - 2013

duration: 3'33"