

Farewell to Gravity

Country: Germany

Category: Short Form

Company: Werner Cee

Authors: Werner Cee (composition) / Bettina Obrecht (lyrics)

Producer, director, sound engineer: Werner Cee

Other key staff: Alf Terje Hana, Sverrir Gudjonsson (voice), Michael Wertmüller(percussion), Peter Pannke (cymbal)

Language: English

Length: 9:25

SUMMARY

Farewell to Gravity is based on Johannes Kepler's „science fiction“ text „Somnium“ (1634), a fictitious travel to the moon. A daemon brings the protagonist from Iceland to the moon in order to show him the earth from above (a forbidden perspective in Kepler's time). He has to deal with adverse conditions and is rewarded a unique look at his home planet.

The short audio piece transports the space-traveller to today's moon, still a romantic symbol but currently also eyed as a valuable depot of raw materials and basis for space colonization.

Looking back at earth, the traveller sees her beauty and fragility, but is also confronted with the debris belt surrounding it. While any day now, a real "Kessler effect" crashing of satellites could build an impenetrable layer around the earth, there is presently a different, equally impenetrable debris belt: fragments of our media culture, crashing and shattering and forever circling the earth.

The Icelandic astronaut goes through various phases: from the shock of seeing earth as it presents itself today via a short romance to a nostalgic look at old earth and, in the end, defiant acceptance and even relief in view of the burden, the madness he can now leave behind.

The wry sentimental or almost enraptured lyrical texts encounter a dramatic sound aesthetic characterized by virtuoso instrumental playing and driving rhythms; the resulting tension feeds a grotesque dialogue, an outer-space look at our planet jolted by human greed and foolery.

*„The Moon is more than a
physical destination“*
(NASA, Artemis Mission)

Lunatic Somnium

Farewell to Gravity



An Ars Acus(ca Composi(on by Werner Cee. Lyrics: Be7na Obrecht. 2023.

If humanity is to con/nue for another million years, our future lies in boldly going where no one else has gone before. (...) We are running out of space and the only places to go to are other worlds. It is /me to explore other solar systems. Spreading out may be the only thing that saves us from ourselves. I am convinced that humans need to leave Earth. Stephen Hawking

If they chase us from earth, my book will be a useful guide to the pilgrims and immigrants to the moon. Johannes Kepler 1603

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Voice
Sverrir Gudjonsson

e-git
Alf Terje Hana

Percussion
Michael Wertmüller

e-quin
Werner Cee

Cymbal
Peter Pannke

Lyrics
Be_ na Obrecht

Realisa: on, Arrangement,
Composi: on
Werner Cee 2023

Do you want to see what noone has ever seen?

Do you want your eye to tes:fy
what has been on your mind
for such a long :me?

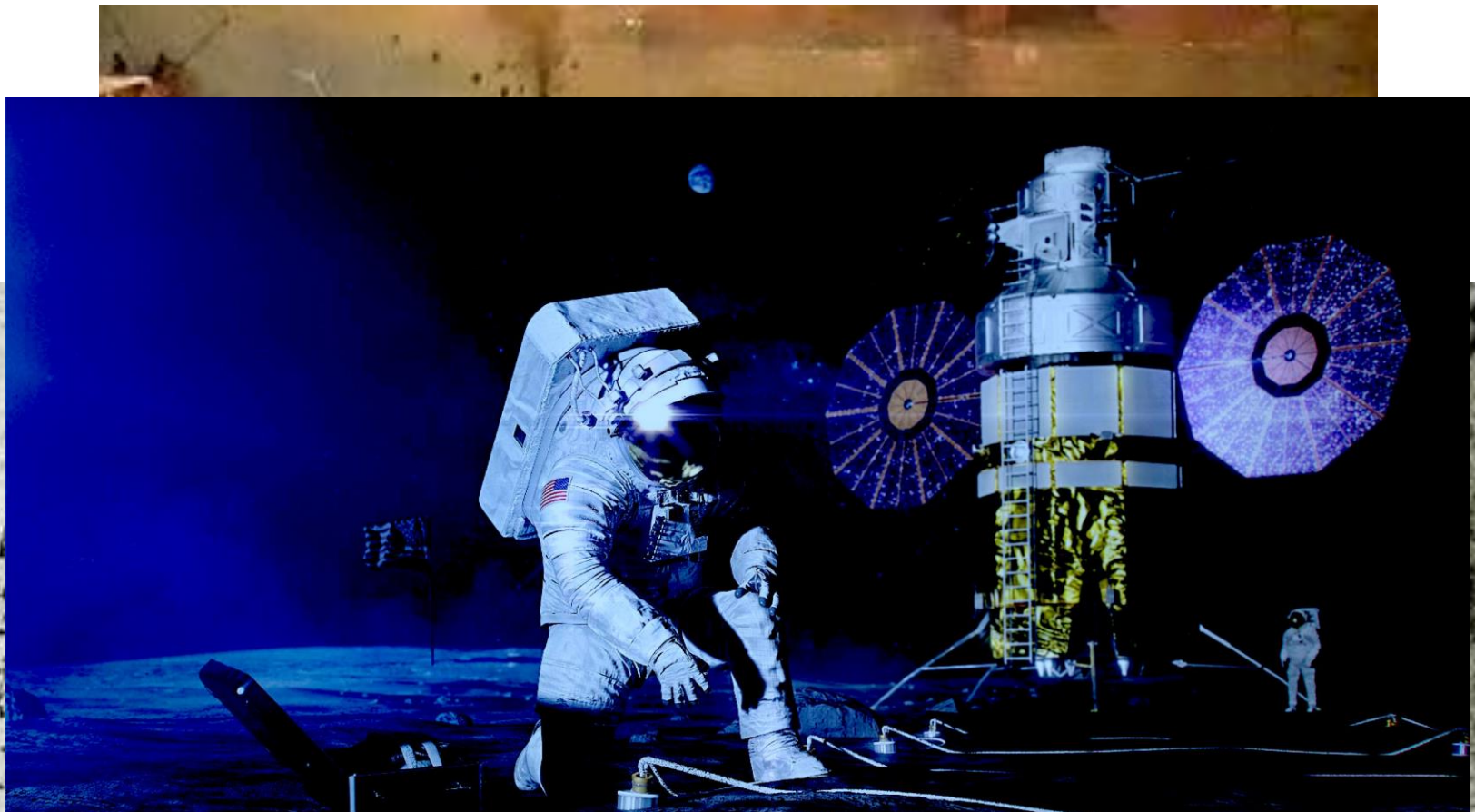
This daemon led the way
surfing through the eclipse
stretching, contrac:ng,
caterpillaring through space as
unknown forces
tried to tear us apart.

We went full speed,
but on reaching the moon,
the daemon caught me softly In
her seven arms.

And I never thought twice.

*Curious You
need to be strong.
You need to be brave
But most of all you need to be
Curious.
Most of all you need to be Free.*

This daemon
showed me the earth
from above
she pointed out
terrestrial sunrise
and kept me warm
in a cold moon night
I danced a slow dance
In her seven arms, as
the earth shone solemnly
before our eyes.



ShaVer splaVer	maVer shaVers	vital signs and nursery rhymes,
Darkest maVer	doesn't maVer	Trauma, stoma, melanoma,
MuVs and martyrs,	darkest maVer	rainbow bridge, allergic itch, Moths and mothers
Carbon footprints, superheroes,		
	first amendment and ground zeroes,	molecules and ridicules
Spectacle and peVy scandal		flavours, favours, online tools,
Vermin,	Shoo:ng, loo:ng, parachu:ng	
holy man and vandal	Experts, celebs, high-falu:ng,	crashing, mashing, sunbirds,
	botox, Biden, Pu:n,	blue light flashing
Brothels, bothers		gain of func:on
busters, bastards,	dazzles, puzzles, muzzles, shackles,	extreme
	unc:on low-fat, rat-race,	
Crumble, creatures, cars a-crashing		Solid maVers
Special offers, social bashing,	wolves and jackals,	MaVer scaVers
Gender, fender and pretender,	spirits and conspiracy	
Monk and monkey, moneylender,	digits family therapy	
		Crashes
		Ashes

Let us dance the
moon dance,
interstellar tango,
let us take the chance,
galac:c rock as can go
whirling waltz in the void,
before even the void is
destroyed.

The constella:ons are
our bright chandeliers
they sparkle and sway as
we dance away in our
vacuum ballroom.

The earth is shining bright
In the sky
The night will not end
This cold, black night
Let our visors touch gently

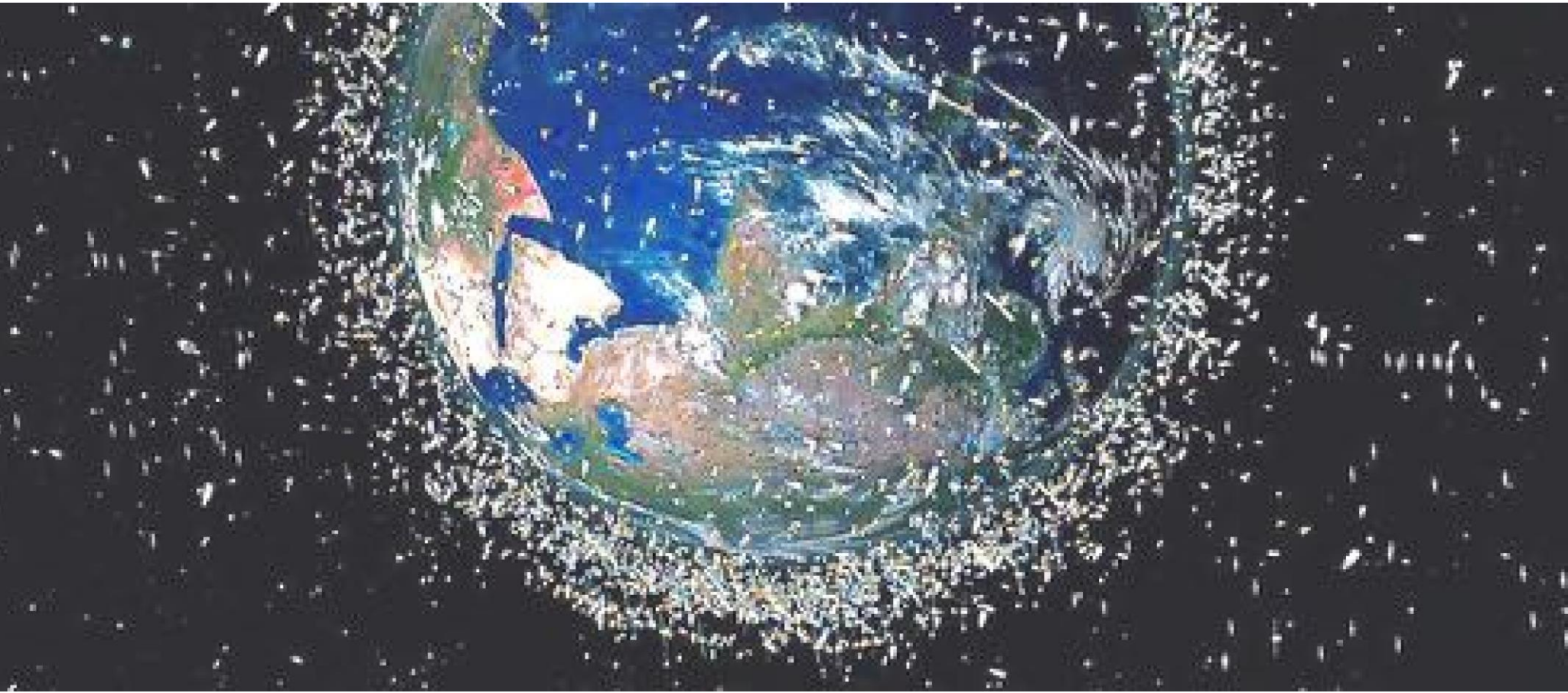
Our gloves touch tenderly
We will swirl and hop
But we must know when to stop
We should not jump too high
Or else we might fly
And will never make it back
to the vacuum dance
floor

Our eternal chandeliers
are the constella:ons,
they sparkle and sway
they flicker and shine
they spiral and twine
they tumble and fall in
our vacuum ballroom.

*I have a photograph of you
You were so perfect
Delicate blue and radiant
In a deep black sky*

*You were so perfect in your
haze*

Just this tender veil over your face



My beloved blue marble

Circling your father sun

I see you

In a black sky

Unveiled, bare, ashamed

Of your creatures

Farewell to gravity

My brain is like a feather

My bones are
like a duckling's down
from a ripped duvet.

My feet are over my head

My dreams are spinning in circles
like the seeds of a maple tree

Farewell to gravity

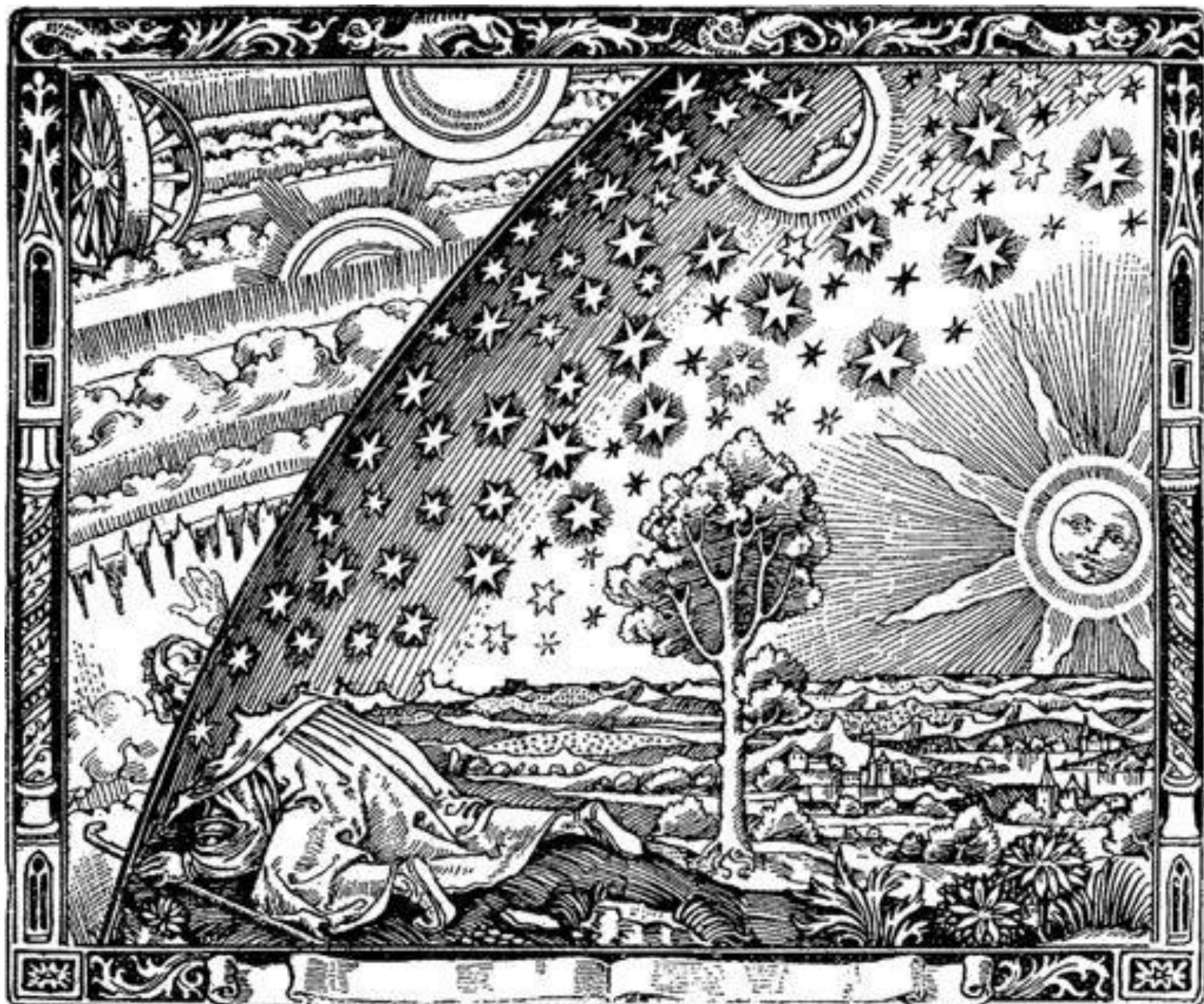
No heavy boots will tread us down
No leaden words will keep us grounded
No leaden thoughts will keep us
from flying.

Farewell to gravity

difficult to drop bombs if they won't fall. careful:
they might explode on you.

Farewell to gravity

No jumping from bridges any more.
No falling from cherry trees any more.
No dropping your best porcelain any more.
Nor bending with a sore back any more.
No hi_ing the ground If
you happen to stumble.
Just spread your arms
And fly and
laugh.



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