

# ahon

*explorations of a global Filipina artist*

by Jireh Calo

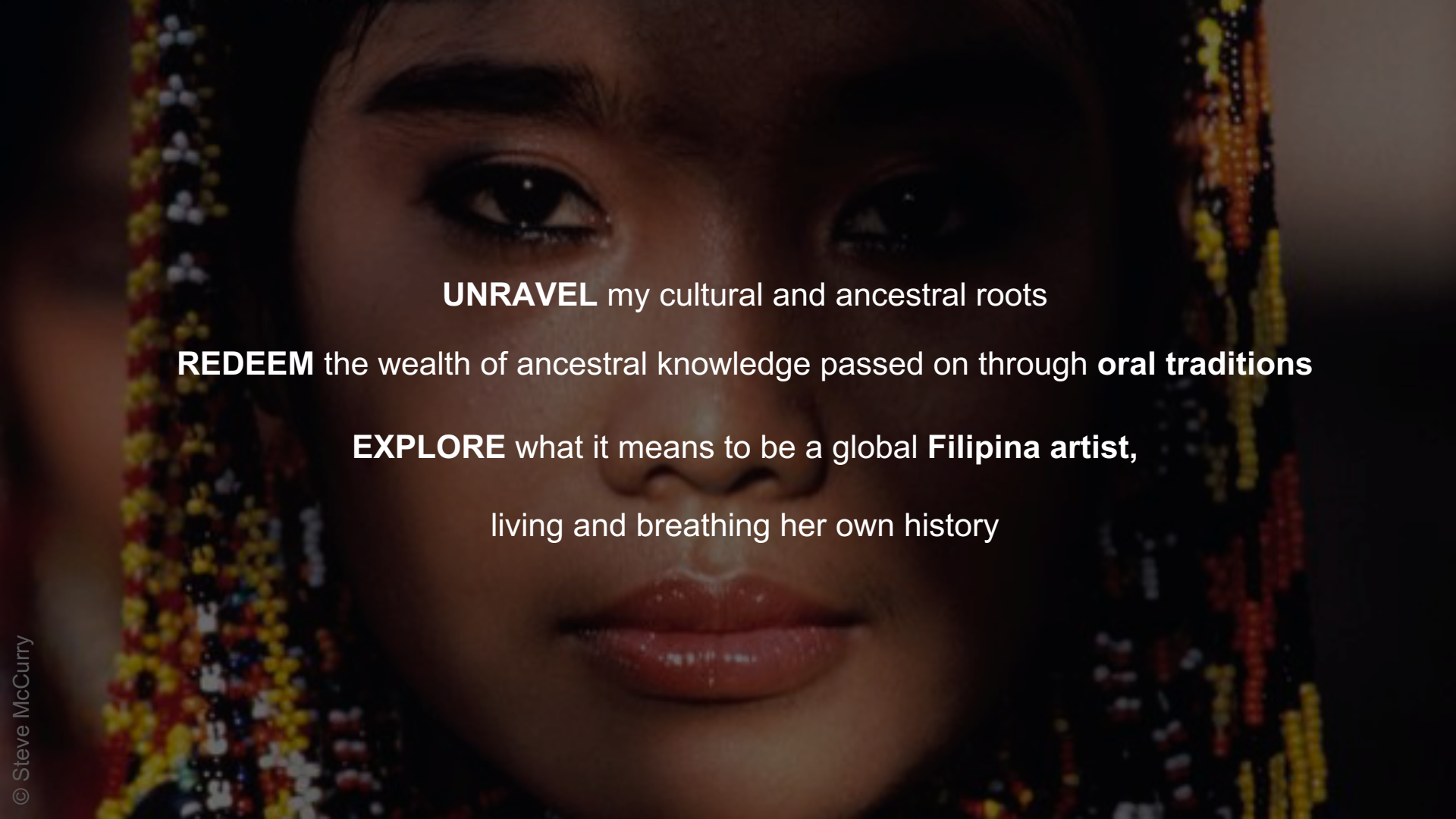




Metro Manila







**UNRAVEL** my cultural and ancestral roots

**REDEEM** the wealth of ancestral knowledge passed on through **oral traditions**

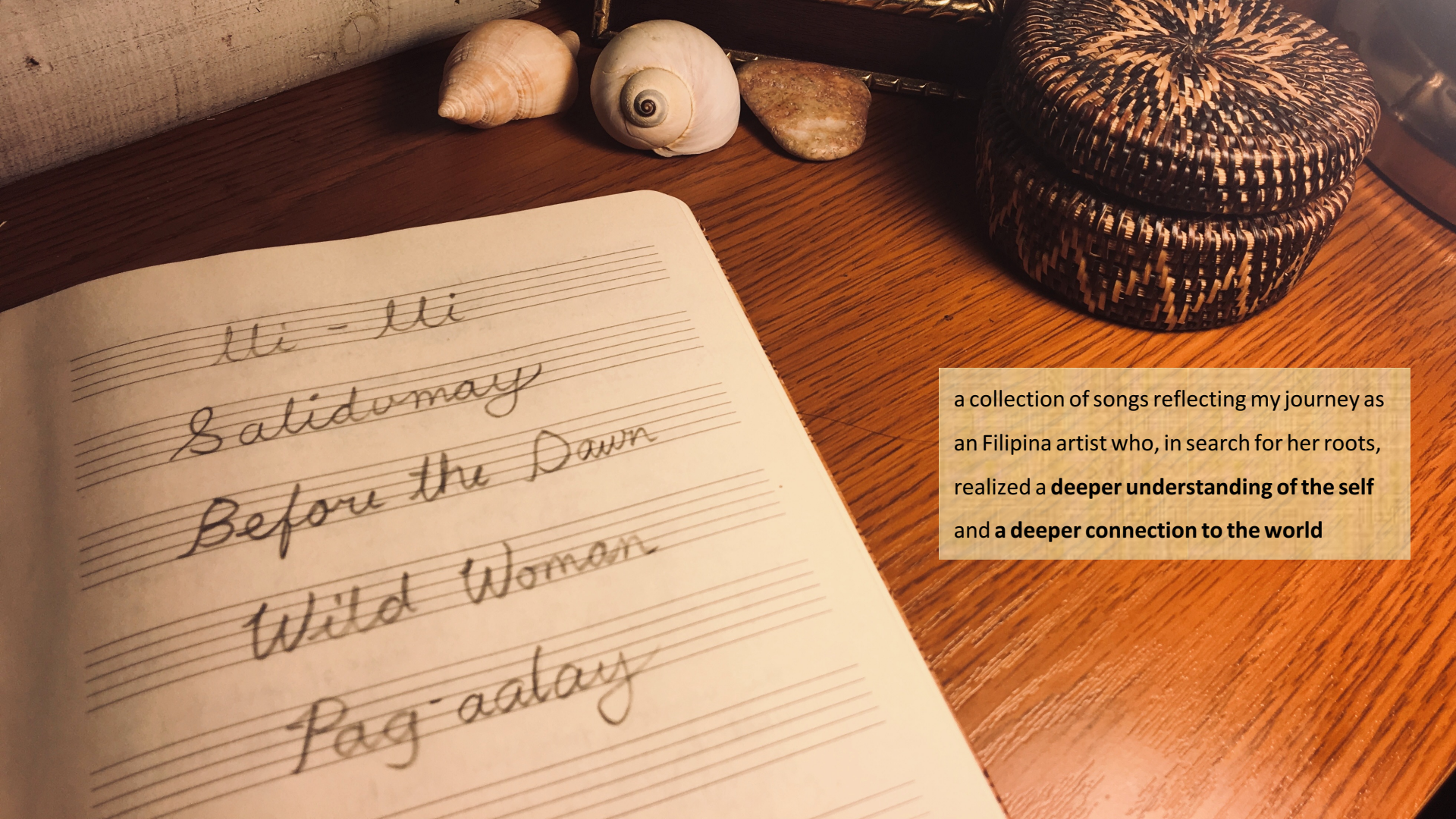
**EXPLORE** what it means to be a global **Filipina artist**,  
living and breathing her own history





**“ahon”**

*(n.) the rising out of, ascent; disembarkment*



Li - Li  
Salidomay  
Before the Dawn  
Wild Woman  
Pag-aalay

a collection of songs reflecting my journey as an Filipina artist who, in search for her roots, realized a **deeper understanding of the self** and a **deeper connection to the world**





"Duyan" by Nestor Leynes

Jireh Calo - vox  
 Daniel Volovets - classical guitar  
 Fares Ishaq - nay



# Ili Ili Tulog Anay

(an Ilonggo lullaby)

arr. Jireh Calo

*freely*

**A** (flute plays ambient sounds)

Voice

I - li i - li tu - log a - nay wa - la di - ri i - mong na - nay

v.

— kad - to tien - da ba - kal pa - pay i - li i - li tu - log a - nay —

**B** *Adagio* (flute)

v.

m.

16 Cm11 Cm9 Cm11 Cm9

**C**

v.

m.

24 Bb/C Dm7/C Ab7/C Ab7 F/C F

simile

# Salidumay

(an arrangement of a prayer chant associated with the Igorot and Kalinga people of the Cordilleras, Northern Philippines)



© David Howard

**“Oral traditions** are living expressions of human existence; constantly adjusting, every version adapting to the context in which it is being told .”





Jireh Calo - vox & piano, post-production  
 Jodie Michael - drums  
 Jacob Jezioro - double bass  
 Daniel Volovets - classical guitar  
 Fares Ishaq - nay

# Salidway

art. Jireh Calo

**A** freely

Bm7 Amaj7 Gmaj7 E/G#

Bm7 Amaj7 G6 E/F#

Bm11 (slide) Cmaj11 E sus E

cover previous melody

F#7sus(b9) E/F#

**B** (Bm11) cresc (B6sus) E/b

A/b (B7sus) E/b

G/b

Bm11 Amaj7 E/F#

Gmaj7

**C** groove enters

A/B E/B G/B E/B | bass fill

A/B E/B G/B E/B | bass fill

**D** (vox ad lib)

f

(bass)

**E** solo fill (2nd) solo fill

**F** Bm9 Cmaj7 Dmaj7 E(ad9)

mp F#m7 E/b G/A

cresc. (Cmaj)

E/A G/A E/A

**G** solos G/A E/A repeat till cue

build up to [H]

**H** on cue

ff

**I** Bm7 E(ad9) G/B E/B

**J** DRUM/PERC. solo over hits

**K** Bm11 Amaj7/B Em9/B

mp

**L** (voice) (bass)

2A

fine 2

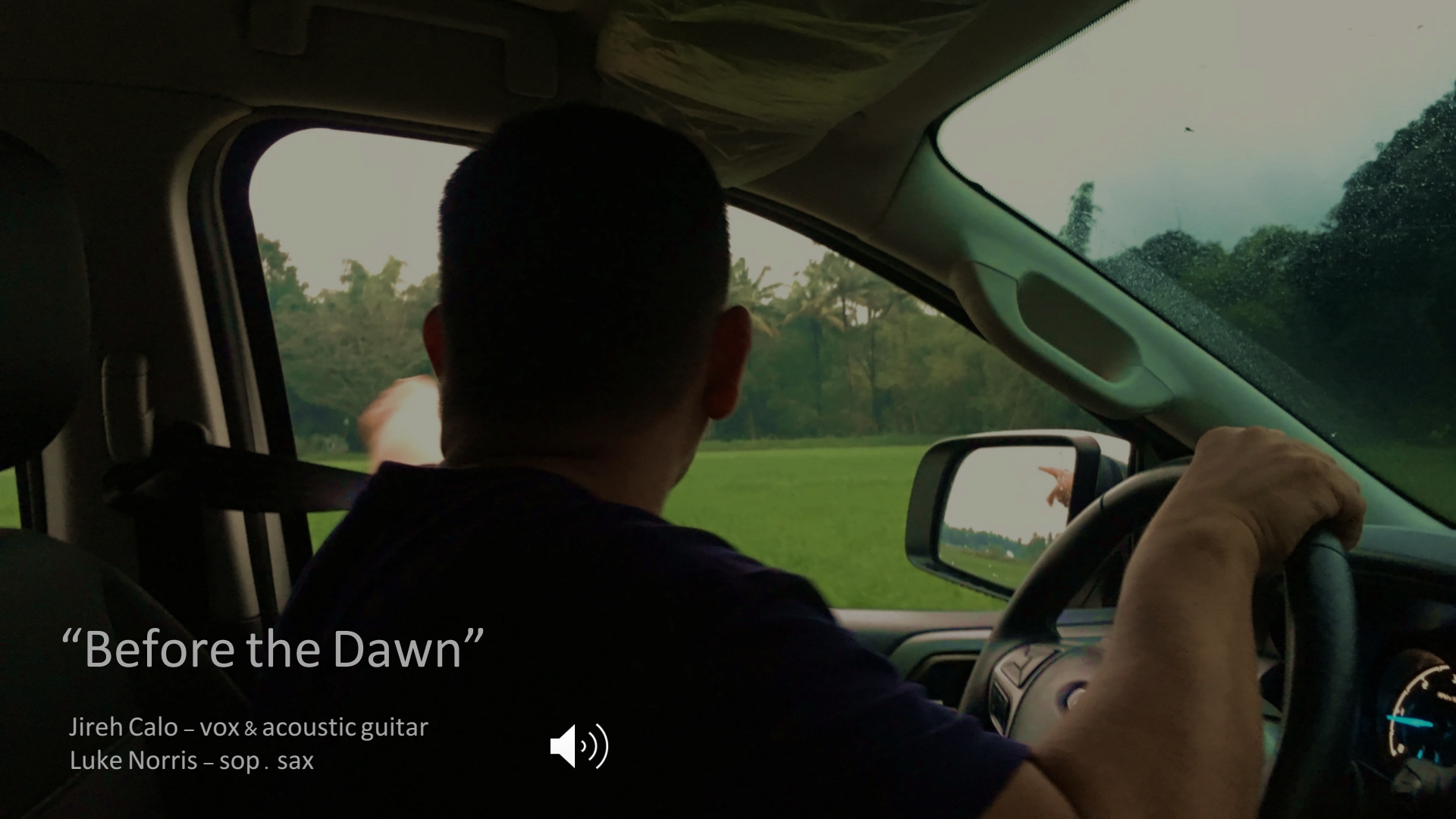
**“Salidumay”** (see video file)  
video by Jireh Calo





**T'boli School of Living Traditions** (see video file)  
video by Jireh Calo



A man is seen from behind, driving a car. The car is moving through a lush green landscape with palm trees and other vegetation visible through the windows. The driver's hands are on the steering wheel, and the interior of the car is partially visible. The overall mood is serene and peaceful.

# “Before the Dawn”

Jireh Calo – vox & acoustic guitar  
Luke Norris – sop. sax



## Women Who Run with the Wolves

(feminine instinctual psyche)

- keen sensing, playful spirit, heightened capacity for devotion
- relational, deeply intuitive, intensely concerned with their loved ones
- experienced in adapting to constantly changing circumstances
- fiercely stalwart and brave

laying on the ground  
on a fire, as if  
I'm leaning against the  
cheek of the Divine

Remind myself to be  
thankful for the space  
and tools I have  
to create

success of  
and natural

## "Wild Woman"

Hamar o tocar a la puerta-

"to play upon the instrument of the name in order  
to open a door"

we may not answer when she calls out,

but in our bones we know her.

we know she belongs to us and we to her.

She comes to us through a mist of need, beauty,

and where is true home"

"so resonant, so right that causes us to remember

what substance we are really made from,

and where is true home"

"The longing for her comes when one realizes one

has given scant time to one's own creative life,

one's life's work, or one's true loves"

"Once women have lost her and then found her again

they will fight and fight hard to keep her...

for with her their creative lives blossom, their

relationships gain meaning and depth and heal

**"To sing means to use the soul voice.  
It means to say on the breathe the truth  
of one's power and one's need,  
To breath soul over the thing  
that is ailing or in need of restoration."**

TWO YEARS ON  
THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER LIST  
THE MILLION-COPY BESTSELLER

# Women Who Run With the Wolves

Myths and Stories  
of the Wild Woman  
Archetype



Clarissa Pinkola Estés, Ph.D.

"A deeply spiritual book...She honors what is  
tough, smart, and untamed in women.  
She venerates the female soul."

—The Washington Post Book World



# *Wild Woman*



Jireh Calo – acoustic guitar and vox

Jacob Jezioro – double bass

Jodie Michael – drums

Fares Ishaq – nay



In seeking to know oneself, we learn to find our voice and find deeper connections with the world around us.





# **“Pag-aalay”**

## **(Sorrow to Gratitude)**

An improvisational piece based on an emotional framework rather than a musical one; inspired by Don Ellis’ “Despair To Hope” (‘New Ideas’ album, 1961).

(ALL)

Jireh Calo - vocals

Luke Norris - soprano sax

Jacob Jezioro - double bass

Jodie Michael - drums

Daniel Volovets - classical guitar

Fares Ishaq - nay



pag-aalay  
"offering"



Berklee Global Jazz Institute (BGJI)

**Marco Pignataro** – BGJI Managing Director; CE Adviser

**Danilo Perez** – BGJI Artistic Director

**Jerry Leake** – committee member; world rhythms mentor  
*and everyone in the BGJI family*

Sessions Musicians (who helped bring the music to life!):

**Jodie Michael** – drums

**Jacob Jezioro** – bass

**Fares Ishaq** – nay

**Luke Norris** – soprano saxophone

**Daniel Volovets** – classical guitar

**Liz Teutsch** – engineering

Community Partners:

**PEER Servants** (MA)

**Revive Community Church** (MA)

**Center for Community Transformation** (Philippines)

**Stairway Foundation** (Philippines)

**Grace Nono** (TAO Foundation)

**Devin Ferreira**

*and all the individuals who've been a part of my journey!*

*Maraming salamat!*



# Sources

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Grace Nono  
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T'boli School of Living Traditions





