Another Man

Thanks to Ntozake Shange

1

done gone
            (jacaranda/zanzibar)
    Another man done
            (forsythia/trinidad)
Carry me on
            (geranium/judea)
    Carry me
            (nux vomica/silesia)
Through the coasts
            (witch hazel/senegal)
    the coasts
            (kudzu/dakar)
A closer walk with thee
            (baobab/cyprus)
    a closer walk
            (baby's breath/bangladesh)
I shall be released
            (sweet william/jordan)
My garden shall be
            (eucalyptus/zimbabwe)

2

anima mundi   caveat labor
                        (reader be warned)
    THIS IS A LOT OF WORDS
spirit of the universe   a labelle etoile
                        (under the open sky)
    THIS ISN'T THE WHOLE STORY
the sky open   ecce signum
                        (behold the sign)
    DANCE, DANCE COMPASS OF THE BODY
mal du siecle   (world weary)
    GOT THE RIGHT PLACE? THE RIGHT FOLIAGE?
danse macabre   (dance of death)
THE ISLANDS/THE PLANTATIONS/THE FRONTIERS/THE QUARRIES
        onus probandi   (burden of proof)
            DANCE, DANCE, BODY WATER WALKING
        est alea   (the die is cast)
    EARTH IN LIMBS   FEET MOVING EARTH
la lacrimae rerum   (the sadness of things)
    RIVER ROOTS/OCEANS/STARS BENEATH
        weltpolitiz   (world politics)
        DESCENDANTS, ASCENDANTS WELLING
    enfants perdus   (lost children)
RUTH JUDITH ESTHER AMOZ JOEL NEHEMIAH

a me damnee   (lost soul)
CURE THE SICK CLOTHE THE NAKED FEED FEED THE HUNGRY
           nuit blanche   (sleepless night)
SLAVES IN EVERY NATION   BLOOD OF CULTURES FOUNDED
           wanderjahr   (years of wandering)
   SHOT GUN RIDIN'   COON HUNTING NIGHTS
           quis custodiet ispos custodes?
           (who shall guard the guardians?)
CRIES FROM THE HORIZON/FROM TULSA/FROM THE ANCIENTS
           cuis bono?   (who is the beneficiary?)
DRUMS/BACKWARD CONTORTIONS/MORACCAS/LEGS/TORSOS
           voe victus   (woe to the vanquished)
THRUST UPWARD   THE ARMS LEAP   WHOSE FACE   WHO'S
           quous deus vult perdere
           (those who a god wishes to destroy)
THE NATIVE?   NAPOLEON?   IS HE PASTRY?
           pius dementant   (he first drives mad)
STALIN/HITLER/MUSSOLINI---HOW ABOUT THEM?
           vivere fortes   (there lived brave men)
WHO'S THE JUNTA/THE NEO/THE KKK/KNOW THE NAMES
           ante Agamemnona   (before Agamemnan)
& WHY   & WHO ARE VICTIMS   THE NEIGHBORS
           c'est laguerre   (that's war)
THE SETTLEMENTS   THE ROUND UPS   THE ALIENATED
           finem respice   (consider the end)
THE ANIMALS   THE DRIVEN   THE FAMILIES   THE KINGDOMS
           ex amino   (from the heart)
SING OF A GREEN WILLOW   THE GARDEN   OUR GARDEN
               misere   (have mercy)

3

or maybe you're a spirit trapped in strands of Billy Strayhorn
      NECEDE MALIS   (YIELD NOT TO MISFORTUNES)
old lovers on the marrow   jazz/blues/funk
      HOC AGE   (ATTEND TO YOUR WORK)
folk/pop/opera   rock us   rock us
         GARDEZ LA FOI   (KEEP THE FAITH)
affairs gone bad   somebody   something's haunting
             VITA NUOVA (NEW LIFE)
disowned disowned   gotta make a new family
             VIS MEDICATRIX NATURAE
             (HEALING POWER OF NATURE)
magnolias/zambia bamboo/zaire poppies/eden
     QUADEMUS IGITAR   (LET US THEREFORE REJOICE)
these reeds gonna play   skin's gonna sing
               J'YSUIS   (HERE I AM)
my people we people   sun's gonna shine
             MALIGRE   (IN SPITE OF)
      the back door's open
               J' Y RESTE   (HERE I STAY)
      set free   set free
               TOUT   (EVERYTHING)