

The Diamond Child

A Fable for the Future

One-act musical

The show begins magically as Mother Ocean appears on stage. She has been sent because a couple is soon going to have a child who will be the six billionth human alive on earth. The parents of that child will be granted any wish they make for their baby. The lucky parents live in California, but before Mother Ocean will grant them their wish, she insists that they visit three other couples around the world.

Mother Ocean magically takes the Californians to Africa where they meet a couple who are also about to have a child. Then they travel to Tobago, an island in the Caribbean, where they meet a second couple. Finally, Mother Ocean takes them to China to meet the last set of parents.

Each couple faces different problems. But they all have one thing in common. All of these couples will have their baby at exactly the same time as the Americans. Meeting all of these people makes the Americans realize how much alike people really are, no matter where in the world they live.

At last, the Californians make their wish, and the magic of their wish makes a chorus of children appear on stage. They sing about the future and everyone in the audience is invited to join in singing the final wish that the children make:

*Love to learn.
Learn to share.
Share to live.
And live to care.*

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Dedicated to Charles Dumas, with gratitude and admiration

1. The Ocean Song	1
<i>Mère Mer and Company</i>	
2. An American Dream	9
<i>Mary, Tod and Mère Mer</i>	
3. The Wish	18
<i>Mère Mer, Mary and Tod</i>	
4. The Story of Love	22
<i>Faheen, Aloon, Chorus and Orchestra</i>	
5. American Reply 1	37
<i>Tod and Mary</i>	
6. Sylvia Rehearses	40
<i>Sylvia</i>	
7. Paul's Song	41
<i>Paul</i>	
8. American Reply 2	46
<i>Tod and Mary</i>	
9. I Would Build You a Garden	49
<i>Xiao Bin</i>	
10. Aloon's Song	56
<i>Aloon</i>	
11. Li Yu's Song	68
<i>Li Yu</i>	
12. Another	72
<i>Faheen</i>	
13. Sylvia's Song	76
<i>Sylvia</i>	
14. Frontside Tailslide	80
<i>Paul and Men</i>	
15. The Fathers' Wish	85
<i>Tod, Paul, Aloon and Xaio Bin</i>	
16. The Mothers' Wish	93
<i>Mary, Sylvia, Faheen and Li Yu</i>	
17. The Diamond Child	96
<i>Mary</i>	
18. Finale 1	100
<i>Mère Mer and Company</i>	
19. Finale 2	104
<i>Company and Children's Chorus</i>	
20. Bows and Exit Music	112
<i>Cast, Audience and Orchestra</i>	
21. Finale and Bow Music for Children and Audience	116

*In the end we will conserve only what we love.
We love only what we understand.
We will understand only what we are taught.*
Baba Dioum