

Alan Stivell "Ar Gelted Kozh (Les Anciens Celtes)"

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Tril mil bloaz zo sur'walc'h, n'oa ket ur baradoz 'wid 'r
Gelted kozh
Met tud aman oa 'heseo Demokrasiezh, araog an dud
'barzh Bro-Gres
'Wel barzh 'r'vro sen 'oa kentoc'h ur c'hlas o c'hoari 'n
dra-se
Met tri mil bloaz 'zo dija, n'oa roue 'bet war hon douar
'Merc'hed oa par d'ar baotred, hag an douar 'oa d'an
oll

Daou mil a pemp kant bloaz 'zo, Kultur ar Gelted kozh
oa o fewa?
War lod brasa? an Europa, lorc'h 'bet hon eus o lar an
dra-se
Met rheid eo gout 'oa ar Romaned tud gouez'n o
c'hichen
War 'n dachenn filozofel, arzhel a' sokiel.
Hag 'wid 'lodenn diouzh 'skianto? ha diouzh an
tekniko?

Skupet eo bet bed kozh ar Gelted ga' hin' ar Romaned
Kre'woc'h oa he, ya'hat, 'wid rhe'k ur stad a rhein un
niverenn da bep den
'Brezel etre ar Gelted hag ar Romaned
'Zo bet ur brezel 'tre ar Stad o doue ha' gevredigezh
tud
'Tre 'r bed karrezeg ha kaled leun a karrezed vihan
Hag ur bed ronn ha dourel leun a droellenno? hunvre
ha follentez
Kollet eo bet ar brezel-se, 'wid ar mare

Life was no paradise three thousand years ago for the
Celts of old

But before they spoke in Greece of democracy we had
tried it out in practice,
Not just for those in the slave-owning class but for all
men.
Three thousand years ago we bowed the knee to no
king,
Women stood equal to their brothers and the land
belonged to all.

Five hundred years went by, bloomed bright the free-
sown flower of our culture
Across the boundaries of Europe, this no idle boast in
our mouths :
When Romans ranged on the seven hills with packs of
wolves
The Celts were known as philosophers, their arts and
society
Blossomed around our ancient lore of science and
craft.

Sweeping across the ancient Celtic world came the
Romans,
Building their State on our bones, numbering each man
as slaveowner or slave.
Not merely Roman and Celt were locked in struggle :
It was a battle of ideas between the supremacy of the
State and the liberty of the individual,
On the one side a square cube of cube-shaped
thoughts
Imprisoning a liquid world full of spiralling dreams and
fantasy,
Which now has begun once more to break free.

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