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Blessed Carlo Acutis Rocks!

Catholic singer-songwriter releases new single and video celebrating the Eucharist and the future patron Saint of the internet

LOS ANGELES, March 4, 2025 - Sophistipop artist <u>Le Concorde</u>, the brainchild of Los Angeles-based Catholic singer-songwriter Stephen Becker, released today the inspirational single, "Corpus Christi," along with a unique pixel art video, as a moving tribute to Blessed Carlo Acutis, the teenage computer whiz who is slated to be canonized April 27, 2025, and the profound Eucharistic miracles that captivated his heart. The soul-stirring composition aims to uplift hearts and point believers and non-believers alike to Eucharistic miracles.

Listen to "Corpus Christi" <u>here</u>. Download the album cover for "Corpus Christi" <u>here</u>. Watch the video <u>here</u>. Download a diagram of all the "Easter eggs" pertaining to the life and interests of Blessed Carlo Actuis that are featured in the video <u>here</u>. Please see below for the full lyrics to the song.

"Corpus Christi" is available for streaming on all major platforms, including Spotify, Apple Music and YouTube. The songs feature heartfelt vocals, a rich instrumental arrangement and lyrics that unveil the link between the Texas city, Corpus Christi, and Orvieto, the Italian town where pilgrims come to see the blood-stained corporal that covered a Eucharistic Host that, in 1263, bled miraculously into the hands of a priest celebrating Mass. That wondrous event was one of over 130 such signs that Acutis listed on the website he created on Eucharistic miracles in 2004, two years before he died at the age of fifteen.

"Corpus Christi' is a love letter to beauty, the Catholic faith and resilience," Becker said. "It's a song about miracles and the future patron saint of the internet, Blessed Carlo Acutis. The lyrics are a sort of weaving of geographical references to places where great Eucharistic miracles have taken place, and the desire we naturally have for more and more such miracles. I wanted the song to sound exquisite — like jewelry for your ears — precision, vibrant colors, unexpected flourishes. It all tied together for me thinking about the beauty of a bejeweled monstrance, incense spiraling around it and angels in attendance."

Becker wrote "Corpus Christi" during a flood of inspiration that came to him in part through visiting Santiago de Compostela — the destination of the Way of St. James, a hallowed pilgrimage route. During the 2019 excursion and in the years that immediately followed, he experienced epiphanies of God's love and the love of the saints that led him to a profound reversion to the Catholic faith in which he had been raised.

The accompanying music video honors Acutis both in his love for the Eucharist and his fondness for playing computer games in his spare time. It shows him at work, building his famous website to catalog Eucharistic miracles when he enters into the computer 'matrix' and finds himself climbing the ladder of ascent, harassed by demons and assisted by angels as he makes his way towards Heaven as if he were in a video game.

"My main goal in making the video was to help people get excited about the canonization of Carlo and point them to the mind-blowing reality of the true presence in the Eucharist — to increase zeal and wonder among lukewarm believers and to perhaps tantalize those who are completely unfamiliar with the faith but who have perhaps seen illustrations of the sacred heart or the Eucharist before and would never think to connect it in anyway with computers and video games," Becker said.

Becker encapsulates in "Corpus Christi" the sense of awe, wonder and exhilaration that Blessed Carlo sought to convey to the world through his pioneering website and compelling panel presentations, which have traveled the globe.

Over a pumping rhythm section powered by drummer Ash Soan (Seal, Trevor Horn, Tori Amos) and bass player Vinzenz Benjamin (ABC, Paul Young), and sparkling synthesizers played by Becker himself, along with keyboardist Roger Joseph Manning Jr. (Beck, Morrissey, Jellyfish), Becker sings of miraculous Hosts and the one great miracle to which they all point — transubstantiation

Legendary Scottish producer Calum Malcolm (The Blue Nile, Prefab Sprout) and AIR London mastering engineer Barry Grint (Bee Gees, Fleetwood Mac) bring the sound to a polished sheen worthy of the classic '80s artists who are the main musical inspirations for Le Concorde.

"Corpus Christi" is the first release from the recording sessions for "Second Mansions," Le Concorde's upcoming album, a lush, soulful and celebratory work that, like "Corpus Christi," brings Catholic spirituality and mysticism into the sophistipop genre made famous by Prefab Sprout, The Blue Nile, Aztec Camera and Simple Minds. It follows upon four critically acclaimed releases: a debut self-titled EP (2004), the full-length album *Universe and Villa* (March Records, 2005), the *Suite* EP (Le Grand Magistery, 2007) and the full-length album *House* (Le Grand Magistery, 2010). *AllMusic* has said of Le Concorde, "Becker has always looked to the past for inspiration. Despite this, the group manages to sound fresh and more inspired by their influences, rather than in thrall to them."

For additional information, or to schedule an interview with Stephen Becker, please contact Kevin Wandra of Carmel Communications at 404-788-1276 or kwandra@carmelcommunications.com.

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Full lyrics to "Corpus Christi":

From the Texas gulf to Orvieto A hundred billion ordinary souls Like mine Climbing upon a ladder in a line Outside time

From Assisi to San Francisco The ruins of an echo Of a shining city on a hill Infinity is our homeland Say what you will Save the promise never lost The men who gave their lives For what we cost to waste the afternoon

Flooded with the chemistry Only made by agony Tissue torn from yours

Is now a part of mine

Corpus Christi

Carlo cataloging the signs Corpus Christi Entangle us across the divide Every time, please Send another sign Please, send another sign

From Jerusalem To sweet Virginia Sweet Virginia

They persecute your best, mama No life in themselves, mama Born originals but photocopies walking

Drowning in self-help and staring back at themselves When right downstairs the table is set for us To come back home

Flooded with the chemistry Only made by

agony Tissue torn from yours Is now a part of mine

Corpus Christi Carlo cataloging the signs Corpus Christi Entangle us across the divide In the sacrifice

Please...

Corpus Christi

Lights hovering over the vine Corpus Christi Everybody wanting a sign Or would it Only be Synco pe And pearls in the third degree Before us