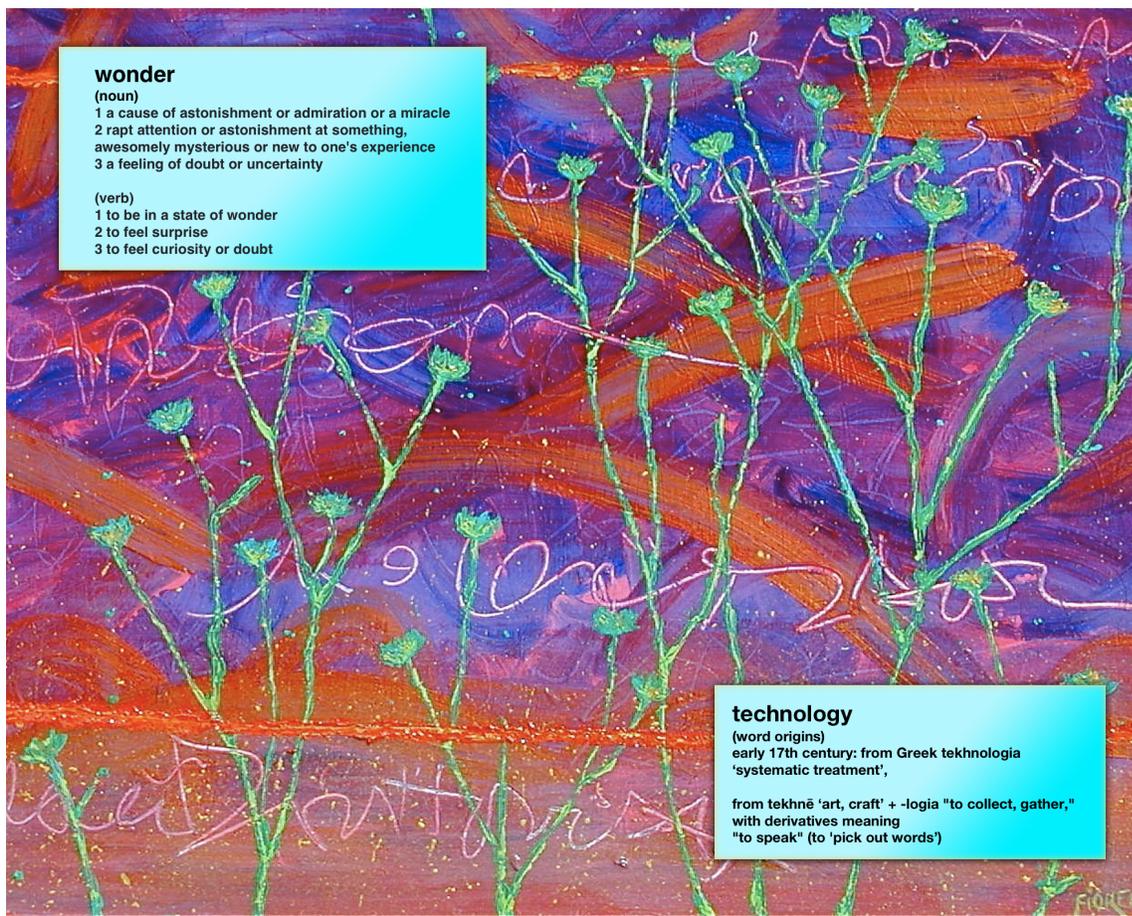


## SONG - SIMPE AS THE SUN



## CHANGE SLIDE



**I want to talk about songs as a technology for cultivating wonder...and thereby facilitating any kind of shift, stirring...or any kind of movement.**

**The famous philosopher David Bowie said “Is it any wonder?”  
How many of you have no idea what he’s talking about?**

**Then there’s Stevie Wonder - a complete sentence with no doubt at all....**

**When is it a good idea to wonder?**

***I wonder where all these butterflies came from?***

**and sometimes not a good idea nofollow through**

***I wonder what will happen if I clear-cut this ancient forest...***

**Family photo:**



**I grew up in this environment. Reactions to this picture range from “Wow. You must have been spoiled and protected by all those brothers”, to “Wow! That explains everything” to “Is it any wonder?!”**



**Change slide**

**Most of my life I felt like I didn't belong...or rather I was a belonging or a possession. My mother was raised to believe that**

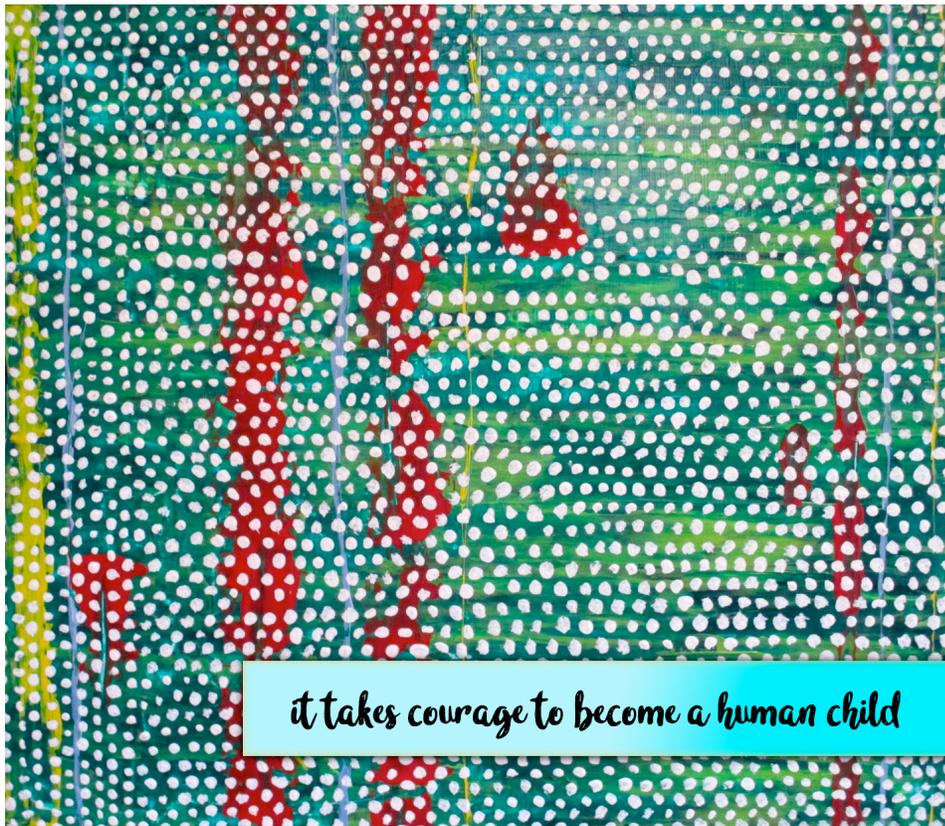
men were worth more than women. She was an incredible mother, don't get me wrong. But no parent can give their children everything they need or want. Thank goodness she gave me recordings of children singing in many languages...stories from many cultures..

My father gave me organ lessons. It turns out my parents gave me what I needed to navigate this life. I played organ peddles, guitar and harmonica all at once by age 11. Music has been my personal compass, magic carpet, refuge and searchlight. My technology.

How many of you here tonight have any ancestors?

It's funny, when I ask a room full of people, those under the age of 10 shoot their hands up in the air saying OHH OOOOHOHH. I figure they still remember where they came from ...this song is written for my mother...and anyone who's ever been a child...

change slide



## **SONG - GRACE**

**Early one february morning, my first year of college, in New Hampshire, I ran out my apartment into the snow as it burned to the ground. I was wearing only my bathrobe and slippers. I was in shock for months. When my mind cleared a little in late May, I was 5000 miles from home standing in an Alaskan fishing boat with one of my brothers and 3 crew members. I was the appointed chef for 5 as we fished salmon 14 hours a day in the rain and all lived-in the single-room house boat my brother had built from an abandoned barge platform. In October, after fishing season, we dragged the barge out to an uninhabited island where i was left alone for a month. No phone, no gun. I had to avoid the 13 ft, 2 ton grizzly bear who showed up and hung around my lagoon.**

**I'd gotten used to life being a series of incomprehensible events, and music got me through al of it. I've never been able to tolerate substances, smoke or alcohol...music is my medicine. Is it really any wonder?**



**My family had always represented “The Establishment” and it appeared the establishment didn’t want me. College was no different. Though the jazz department at university wanted to work with me, the classical department refused me a major. I did not have enough training and I couldn’t even use the word “music” in anything I did there...even though i’d completed 2 years of a theoretical music degree with an A - GPA. I loved it! I toured Europe with the chorale and memorized an hour and a half program in several different languages. I even designed the T-shirts for the tour.**

**By inventing my own major, Right & Left Brain Studies through Performing Arts & Management, I ended up with a broader more interesting and inclusive education than would have been possible through an established degree program. I have used my degree every day of my life since.**

**Is there anyone here who never really knew what they wanted to be when they grew up?**

change slide



## SONG - WHEN I'M AN ANGEL

After a decade of being surrounded by male musicians, I quit the cover music scene and started to write songs. I used them as my technology to tackle big life questions that are usually addressed

in theology classes or philosophy or in religious texts. Some may say I was trying to re-invent the wheel. I believe there is emotional technology so advanced, we won't ever need wheels again!

If I can create an opening, a space for wonder, an opportunity for movement and expansion, I figure I've done my job as an artist, as a songwriter. I have no answers, just wonderings....

I want to leave you with this: if you have a beating heart, you don't have to go out there and find your technology, your music... it's inside of you.... right now!

## SONG - PIPSQUEAK



