

## MEREDITH QUARTERMAIN & OWEN UNDERHILL / The Song of the Dodo

Oh humanus, remember my song  
Columbus is my family—  
from the east I flew to island paradise  
herds of turtles, dugongs in lagoons  
and rainbows of herons, parrots, cormorants.  
Paradise had no monkey, bear or lion  
no jaws that bite, or claws that catch;  
and Calvaria fruit gave me easy pickings

Oh humanus, remember my song  
Columba is my family—  
evolution never thinks, will she need wings;  
I trusted the sailors; they called me stupid and sluggish,  
and ate all my sisters, brothers, lovers

Oh humanus, remember my song  
Columba is my family—  
I'm from the tribe of pigeons and doves.  
Sailors left monkeys, rats and pigs  
who ate all my eggs; too late I learned to run,  
but never fast enough.  
The sailors made me history; then men knew  
what they could do in paradise—  
Oh humanus, remember my song  
Columba is my family

SIRI OLESEN, vocals  
AK COOPE, bass clarinet  
premiered at song room 3 on Saturday, October 22, 2005

song room CD | track eight