

**"OMO LAWORAN ERE"**

(Mezzo Soprano)

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Email: [olawoleolaaro@gmail.com](mailto:olawoleolaaro@gmail.com)**Analysis of "Omo Laworan Ere"**

The final scene in the opera entitled "Iyunade" captures one's offspring as the true essence of life, a common belief among individuals in Yorubaland. It was initially composed in 2016 as the final scene of the opera but was later adapted for piano accompaniment and mezzo-soprano solo in 2018. According to the libretto, this was sung by a certain *Iya Osun* (Osun priestess) named *Osunbunmi* with the mezzo-soprano vocal range. The vocal number includes a recitation from the first measure to the ninth measure, and an aria starts from there to the end. In all, the piece extols the power of *Osun*, the Yoruba goddess of fertility, and re-echoes the credibility of one's progeny.

The composition was based on diatonic harmony, which majorly reflects styles from the Common Practice musical era. Some devices used to craft this piece include flowery notes as made prominent in the bass line of measures 14b – 17, m48 – 50, and m55b – 58. Both ascending and descending sequences were used in measures 11 – 14a and m39 – 44, respectively. Other devices include call and response between the voice and the piano accompaniment. Repetition and modulation were used to emphasise the main idea of the piece. Basically, the left hand of the piano accompaniment was crafted mostly to imitate the voice.

Below is the translation of the lyrics, which were composed in both English and the Yoruba language.

**RECITATIVE LYRICS****ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Osun o se, Yeye Odo e seun  
Kabiyesi, this is destined to happen  
The ancestors of this land, want your  
heir from a blameless woman like Iyun'

Thank you, Osun, thank you, the Queen of the river  
O king, this is destined to happen  
The ancestors of this land, want your  
heir from a blameless woman like Iyun'

**ARIA  
LYRICS**

Omo lowuro kutu hai  
Bi'le obi ba su

The child is the dawn  
When the parents are old

|   |  |
|---|--|
| A ki n ba'le ayo lai romo                         | One cannot but find "Ayo" game seeds in its box  |
| E wole ayo e womo                                 | Behold one with many seeds   |
| Omọ tuntun laworan ere                            | A newborn child is the reflection of its parents   |
| Omọ ọla, jinwin jinwin ileke                      | A child in riches and royalty  |
| Sebi omọ laworan ere                              | A child is the reflection of its parents   |
| Omọ lowuro kutu                                   | The child is the dawn  |
| Omọ l'owuro kutu                                  | The child is the dawn  |
| Mo ri 'un he bi n ba ni o, to je temi ma yin baba | I gained magnificently if I had you, and would praise the Almighty   |
| Ma'dupe ore bi n ba ni o, to je temi mayin baba   | I will appreciate the favour if I have you, I will praise the Almighty   |
| Ma'yin baba, ma yin baba                          | I will praise the Almighty, I will praise the Almighty   |
| Ma'dupe ore, ma'dupe ore, madupe oun t'Olu se     | I will appreciate the favour, I will appreciate the favour, will be appreciative of what the Almighty has done |
| Omọ l'owuro kutu hai                              | The child is the dawn  |
| Bi'le obi ba su                                   | while the parents are old  |
| A ki n ba'le ayo                                  | One cannot help but find "Ayo" game seeds in its box   |
| lai romo ewole ayo e womo                         | Behold one with many seeds   |
| Omọ tuntun laworan ere                            | A newborn child is a reflection of its parents   |
| Omọ ọla, jinwin jinwin ileke                      | A child in riches and royalty  |
| Sebi omọ laworan ere                              | A child is the reflection of its parents   |
| Omọ niyi, omọ nide                                | Children are dignifying, children are precious   |
| Sebi omọ laworan ere                              | A child is the reflection of its parents   |
| Omọ niyi, omọ nide                                | Children are dignifying, children are precious   |
| Sebi omọ laworan ere                              | A child is the reflection of its parents   |
| Omọ niyi, omọ nide                                | Children are dignifying, children are precious   |
| Sebi omọ laworan ere                              | A child is the reflection of its parents   |
| Ori omọ nin pese funni                            | One's child brings good luck   |
| B'ori agbe se n pese fagbe                        | As the sparrow does for itself   |
| Ori wa a kuku pese fun wa                         | We are all destined for good luck  |

Since this piece is dramatic, it is suggested that dramatic scenery be included in its performance, especially during instrumental interludes. Also, this piece has been adapted to be performed by a mezzo-soprano and a piano accompanist; the original orchestra score is available.

# OMOLAWORAN ERE

(Mezzo soprano)

NO 14: ACT III, SCENE VI

Wole Aro

**Moderato**

O - sun o se Ye-ye o-do o seun Ka-bi-ye-si, this is

5

des-tined to ha-ppen The an - ces-tors of this land want your heir from a blame-less

8

wo-man like I-yun''

14

*mp*  
O-

2  
19

m<sup>o</sup> lo-wu - r<sup>o</sup> ku-tu hai bi-l<sup>o</sup> o-bi ba su A ki n ba-le A-

24

yo lai r<sup>o</sup>-m<sup>o</sup> ɛ wo-le A-yo ɛ w<sup>o</sup>-m<sup>o</sup> ɔ-m<sup>o</sup> tun-tun la-wo-rane - re

29

ɔ - m<sup>o</sup> ɔ - la jin-win-jin-win i-l<sup>o</sup>-k<sup>o</sup> se-bi

33

ɔ - m<sup>o</sup> la-wo-rane - re ɔ-m<sup>o</sup> lo-wu-r<sup>o</sup> ku - tu ɔ-m<sup>o</sup> lo-wu-r<sup>o</sup> ku-

38

*f*

tu Mo ri un he bi n ba ni o, to je te-mi ma yin Ba - ba

42

*p*

Madu-pe o - re bi n ba ni o, to je te-mi ma yin Ba - ba Mayin Ba-

46

**a tempo**

*f* *cresc.*

ba, ma yin Ba - ba Ma du-pe o - re, ma du - pe

*rit.* *cresc.*

49

o - re, ma du-pe o - un t'O - lu se

52

57

*mf*  
 0 - m0 lo-wu - r0 ku-tu hai

62

bi- lẹ o-bi ba su A ki n ba-le A - yo lai r0-m0E wo-le A-yo e w0

67

m0 0-m0 tun-tun la-wo-ran e - re 0 - m0

72

o - la jin-win-jin-win i-le-ke se-bi o - mo la-wo-ran e - re o-mo

76

ni - yi, o-mo ni - de se - bi o - mo la-wo-ran e - re o-mo

80

ni - yi, o-mo ni - de se - bi o - mo la-wo-ran e - re o-mo

84

ni - yi, o-mo ni - de se - bi o - mo la-wo-ran e - re O-ri

88

o - mo nin pe - se fun ni bo - ri a - gbe sen pe - se fa - gbe O - ri wa ku - ku

93

pe - se fun wa

97 **rall.** -----