

## Chapter 5: Disabling Soundwriting: Sonic Rhetorics Meet Disability Pedagogy

By Chad Iwertz Duffy, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA

### 6. Untitled Project by Carmen Greiner

Finally, Carmen Greiner creates a powerful mashup of vocal performance and spoken word commemorating Black lives lost to police brutality.

#### Transcript

[*piano music*]

**Choral singing:** Angels, angels, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh  
Lookin' out over Jordan, [**Woman's voice:** Rekia Boyd]  
all I could see [**Woman's voice:** Tanisha Anderson]  
a band of angels [**Woman's voice:** Yvette Smith]  
comin' after me [**Woman's voice:** Aiyana Jones].  
Gabriel was playin' the trumpet [**Woman's voice:** Kayla Moore],  
David was playin' the harp [**Woman's voice:** Shelly Frey].  
Someday, my soul shall be free, I shall be free!

**Woman's voice:** Say her name.

#### Carmen Greiner's Artist Statement

For my sound project, I chose to focus on the question of what project I *need* to make in less of a personal sense but more of a sociopolitical one. This project is designed to raise awareness about and to honor unarmed Black women and girls unjustly murdered by police in recent years. The song "Jordan's Angels" by St. Louis composer Rollo Dilworth calls on the African American spiritual tradition of yearning for freedom from slavery and more recently, racism and societal oppression. Mixed into the spiritual are the names of several Black women and girls murdered by police, borrowed from Aja Monet's spoken poem "Word Warriors." By combining Dilworth's spiritual with Monet's powerful voice and message, I hope to create a project that honors these women and inspires listeners to take action against police brutality.