

## **London Excite (2008)**

**Words: Alan Gilmour; Music: Bissill/ Skeef**

**The Excite Symphony celebrates the people of London, the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the London Philharmonic Orchestra and the re-opening of the Royal Festival Hall: the orchestra's home. Excite will be performed in the Royal Festival Hall on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 2008.**

**Eugene Skeef & Richard Bissill's music was built round my epic poem of London, drawn from workshops, art, history, myth and experience – the following excerpts give a taste but for the full text visit [www.lpoexcite.org.uk](http://www.lpoexcite.org.uk).**

How many people from how many places and how many generations from how many tongues have made this place?

How many worlds are there in a world city?

I feel the city spinning when I stand on the bridge,  
Watching the water seems to rest my soul,  
The water can't be bought, sold stressed hurried,  
Watching the ancient water rests me,  
Looking on so much that's beautiful,  
And the city spins spins spins round me.

They told me the streets would be made of gold,  
They're not,  
There's nothing made of gold except the credit cards,  
They wave at you,  
Tempting you to be the man,  
Best dressed woman,  
Even if you're not.

London Squares and snooty airs  
London streets and concrete beats  
Their story is mine

It's a thread through life,  
It gives energy and solitude and life,  
All those things that London tends to suck out of you,  
It's a thread through us all.

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