Jean ‘Binta’ Breeze gave unstintingly to poets and performers in Leicester. On 26 March 2022 at University of Leicester, Bobba Cass, performance poet and Paulo Carnoth, drummer, shared this homage, the audience repeating **emboldened** words.

*we need you, Jean*: granny, let me hear your voice and shelter me with your stories … **granny, come take me by the hand, with you we breathe, with you we stand**

*we need you, Jean*: mother, hold out your hands to me and nourish me with your thoughts … **mother, come take me by the hand, with you we breathe, with you we stand**

*w*e need you, Jean: loved one, come play hide and seek with my heart … **loved one, come take me by the hand, with you we breathe, with you we stand**

*we need you, Jean*: sister, make sense of our lives with your song … **sister, come take us by the hand, with you we breathe, with you we stand**

*we need you, Jean*: weaver of the arts, intertwine all we see in the cloth of restitution … **weaver of the arts, take us by the hand, with you we breathe, with you we stand**

*we need you, Jean*: justice collaborator, empty out the bowls of deception and greed … **justice collaborator, take us by the hand, with you we breathe, with you we stand**

*we need you, Jean*: open challenger, wager with the privileged and the paragoned and flay within us hiding who we are … **open challenger, take us by the hand, with you we breathe, with you we stand**

*we need you, Jean:* joyous celebrant, help raise us towards what glistens in ourselves … **joyous celebrant, take us by the hand, with you we breath, with you we stand**

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you, Jean, survivor-ancestral of the Middle Passage, ancestors from whom the languages of the deep were stolen … **you, Jean, bringer of sounds that seek out the rhythms of the heart, with you we breathe, with you we stand’**

*homage to Jean ‘Binta’ Breeze,* Bobba Cass, 2022