

B O D Y O F L E A V E S

*Honors Jazz Recital of
Scooter Oyama &
Daniel Andress Sanchez*

Set 1:

Oyama

Whole piece: Journey (Tabidachi)

I wrote this piece in response to my time in Japan this past fall quarter; it represents a journey of the Japanese people through issues like westernization and tradition, but it is also a representation of my own journey for identity as a Japanese-American in Japan.

Konpon (Roots/Foundations)

1st movement

This movement represents my perceived connection to the Japanese people as a Japanese American and how this perception changed from one of simple appearance to deeper values.

Saku (Blossoming)

2nd movement

Saku is about the shifting Japanese identity in an era of modern and westernized Tokyo as well as the perception of “Japaneseness” America.

Shinbetsu (Bereavement)

3rd movement

This song is for all those lost in the tsunami as well as a tribute to the Japanese American DJ, Nujabes.

Fukkatsu (Rebirth)

4th movement

This song is a testament to the strength of the Japanese people and their ability to bind together as a people to never lose hope.

intermission

The music I am showcasing tonight is both deeply personal and also representative of many of my various musical influences that have led me to where I am today as both an improviser and a composer. I find it a great and wonderful challenge to produce music that offers gripping forms of engagement with my audiences, and which creates beautiful spaces within the music for individual performers to shine forth with improvisation and their own unique voice.

Boa Petite

This piece was written in special tribute to one of my favorite musicians and composers, Matthew Wohl. He had once explained to me that we receive influences from all around us, but especially from our peers. I am privileged to have been able to learn from him as a colleague and friend, and wrote this piece quoting ideas from his own music (Song for an Unborn Daughter / Let Petite Mort).

Luminosity

The kernels of this piece came to me years ago, and I have since been reworking segments and transforming ideas into the current pastiche as it exists today. It is a work based on extensions of modality, with melodic lines that work in any contrapuntal arrangement, as the piece develops through delicate transitions, extended ostinatos, and complex meters.

Portrait of Ashwin

In this portrait, I explore melodic contours which, for me, resemble emotionally expressive gestures. Ultimately, I am pursuing ideas of longing, patience, rediscovery, and eternity. The performance is for solo piano, and dedicated to my dear Ashwin.

Bounce Baby

This tune was written for the Quartet Onomatopoetic, one year ago. It stands as one of my own favorite works. Loosely based on a blues, the piece explores polyrhythms in a way that is deeply engaging and immediately comprehensible.

Special Thanks to Our Performers:

Ben Stillerman, drums

Tyler Eaton, bass

Matthew Litrus, bass

Evan Adams, alto and tenor saxophones

Kelly Styger, soprano saxophone and clarinet

Russell White, vibes