

Undergraduate Composition Juries

Professor Lei Liang, Instructor

Saturday, June 2, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.

Conrad Prebys Concert Hall

Arc

Nathanial Craig

stillness, out of reach

Yixuan Shao

Carry On

Huixin Yan

Spectroscopy

Michel Chen

Multiplex

Nan Yi

Lost in Thought

Justin Dingeman

Jury Ensemble:

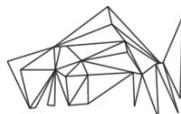
Rachel Beetz, flute

Madison Greenstone, clarinet

T.J. Borden, cello

Matt Kline, double bass

Kyle Adam Blair, piano



UC San Diego

ARTS AND HUMANITIES
Music

Program Notes:

***Arc* by Nathaniel Craig**

Arc is a piece focused on the relationship between musical and narrative form. The piece follows a narrative outline referred to as the monomyth (aka the hero's journey), a narrative form ubiquitous in mythologies around the world that is still commonly used in modern media. This narrative arc, at its simplest, consists of a hero who leaves an ordinary life, encounters supernatural forces, is victorious in a moment of crisis, and returns home to use supernatural forces to provide aid.

The piece follows a more detailed list of events taken from *The Writer's Journey: Mythic Structure for Writers* (2007), by Christopher Vogler, a Hollywood executive and screenwriter. This list of events is used to inform the harmony and melody; the harmony develops from simple triad movement (the ordinary home) to extended and modal harmony (supernatural forces) to atonality (the crisis) and finally returns to the "home" section with additional extended harmony. stillness, out of reach, by Yixuan Shao stillness, out of reach is a piece that aims to both resolve and demarcate the conflicts of different notation conventions. It contains a journey through several sonic fluctuation, while exploring the unobtainable stillness within worldly objects, memories, and human bodies.

***Carry On* by Huixin Yan**

Carry On is a four-movement piece. The movements are written for encouraging people to redefine pity, to chase dreams bravely, to walk away from sadness and to value communication respectively. The texts were the composer's personal reflection and first written to give herself the strength to embrace and enjoy life and thus she thought valuable to share with the audience.

***Spectroscopy* by Michel Chen**

Spectroscopy is a piece inspired by physical qualities and phenomena that allow properties of matter to be explored through the interaction of matter and electromagnetic radiation. It consists of four short movements titled "Excitation", "Crystal Lattice", "Symmetry", and "Color Change". Through the manipulation of instrument layering and dynamics, "Excitation" evokes the absorption and emission of energy as an electron is excited into a higher energy level before returning to the ground state. The core elements of "Crystal Lattice" represent not only the ordered and periodic structure of particles

in a crystalline material, but also the crystal defects that interrupt the regular pattern by establishing repeated musical cells that shift or are otherwise distorted. Molecular symmetry can be used to predict the chemical properties and allowed spectroscopic transitions of a molecule; “Symmetry” generalizes the concept by employing symmetry in musical parameters such as rhythm, pitch, and form. Finally, “Color Change” takes a chemical process quantifiable and observable via spectroscopy and relates it to changes in timbre.

***Multiplex* by Nan Yi**

Multiplex is inspired by a spy thriller novel, which tells the stories of a group of people’s stories. Among them, there is a young man lost his vision but sharp hearing allows him to distinguish enemy’s signal from 50 simultaneous running receivers. A talented mathematician who falls in love with her colleague but working relationship keep them apart. And mentor and mentee now become enemy, mission tears apart their past friendship.

All the stories happened in a mysterious unknown institute. In this solitude, cold stillness meets human’s warmth, helpless reality meets beautiful soul. The stories unfold, the timeline zigzags, characters’ destiny intertwines in such isolated space.

Similarly, I want to create such a scintillating journey through the soundscape. Like a synthesis, a multiplex, where divergent sounds interact, parallel sounds resonate, multiple voices spread. It presents to the audience not only delicate cobbles in the stream but also towering icy mountain, not only quiet peace but also a lightning bolt out of the clear sky. Giving my best effort, I want to create a multiplex, or, a synthesis where sounds coexist, interact, nourish and blossom.

***Lost in Thought* by Justin Dingeman**

Inspired by the smallest thoughts during quiet moments, *Lost in Thought* draws upon the simple ideas that would run swiftly through my mind when I found just a minute of free time. The two main ideas that comprise the piece, that of slow and free-flowing movement and that of playful exchanges, are brought together to reflect what I would always think but would never write down. There is a simple juxtaposition in the piece to demonstrate the stark contrast between the two of infinite moods that one may experience in such a fleeting moment.

Upcoming Concerts

Zong Ming Chua, piano
Saturday, June 2, 2018 – 5:00 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Music Center Recital Hall

a&k
Sunday, June 3, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Music Center Experimental Theater

MUS 32/132 Guitar
Monday, June 4, 2018 – 5:00 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Music Center Recital Hall

Monday Night Jazz: 95JC Jazz Ensembles
Monday, June 4, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Music Center

Chamber Orchestra
Tuesday, June 5, 2018 – 8:00 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Concert Hall

WEDS@7 Ensemble Pamplemousse + Line Upon Line
Wednesday, June 6, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Warren Lecture Hall, Studio A

Contact us for information on upcoming concerts:

Music Box Office: (858) 534-3448 | <http://music.ucsd.edu/concerts>

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