

# Music 33C Final Concert

Friday, June 15, 2018 – 2:00 p.m.  
Conrad Prebys Music Center Recital Hall

Fait Accompli

Matt LeVeque

Aquatolumia

Luke Piszkin

Evening

Joshua Choi

Moral Ends

Eduardo Jimenez

Rinomachs

Hyun Joong Kim

Atmospheric Entry

Zeng Ren

Collapse

Vincenzo Liberatore

## **Matthew LeVeque**

### BIO

Matt LeVeque is a percussionist and composer living in San Diego. After being influenced by concert band and marching percussion settings in his childhood and teenage years, he turned his attention to the classical tradition and contemporary music, and he is currently working to get a bachelor's degree in music composition at UCSD. His main musical influences include minimalism, contemporary percussion, and early polyphony.

### PROGRAM NOTES

“Fait Accompli” was inspired by the near-death experience of Carl Jung in 1944. As he writes in his book *Memories, Dreams, and Reflections*, Jung briefly flat lined after having cardiac arrest; while he was “dead,” he experienced a vision of the Earth as if he was floating in space. While floating, he reflected on his life, seeing it in retrospect as a fait accompli (“accomplished fact”), coming to terms with his death and experiencing nothing but peace. When the vision ended and he returned to life, however, he found reality oppressive and almost horrifying compared to the beauty of the eternal subconscious he had just witnessed. The music follows this narrative from his heart attack to his reawakening, utilizing the sound effects of a heartbeat and an EKG monitor.

### PERFORMERS

Jacqueline Guy, Violin

Remi Ha, Piano

Joseph Garcia and Matt LeVeque, Percussion

## **Luke Piszkin**

### **BIO**

Luke Piszkin is a first-year Astrophysics major with a music minor. Luke has been interested in composition since 5th grade and has composed 20+ works for concert band, jazz band, and many other genres. He is interested in orchestral music and is inspired the music of Holst, Debussy, Scriabin, and most of all Tchaikovsky. Luke hopes to pursue a career in Astrophysics and compose as a hobby, but would like to compose as a career if given the opportunity. He would like to thanks all his wonderful performers and classmates for supporting him through the year. He would also like to thanks his composition professors for invoking musical growth and humoring his propensity for questioning and debate.

### **PERFORMERS:**

Jackie Guy, Violin

Matt Leveque, Percussion

Zeng Ren, Piano

Kyle Motl, Bass

Luke Piszkin, Percussion

## **Joshua Choi**

### **BIO**

Joshua Choi began learning piano at the age of seven. However, piano performance was never his main goal. Growing up as a youth, video games were his main past time; in comparison, piano performance was but a stressful hobby. Nevertheless, at the age of 14, he came to the sudden realization that he could utilize his piano knowledge in order to begin composing music for the video games he grew up enjoying. As a result, he is now a fourth-year student in the UCSD Music Department, developing his compositional techniques in order to successfully become a video game composer himself.

### **PROGRAM NOTES**

Evening is the period of the time at the end of the day, usually from 6pm to bedtime. This piece represents the evening, from the warmness of its beginning, to the relaxed tone of the night. The melody begins in the piano with a guitar accompaniment. Later, the roles shift to have the guitar hold the melody. As the piece progresses, the bossa nova rhythm fades. The percussion begins to perform off-rhythm progression. By the end, the steadiness of the day is replaced with the uncertain rhythm of the night.

### **PERFORMERS**

Joshua Choi, Piano

Hyun Joong Philip Kim, Guitar

Matt LeVeque, Percussion

## **Eduardo Jimenez**

### **BIO**

Eduardo Jimenez has been composing for two years and has gone through stylistic changes over those years. His first piece was written in 2016 which was rehearsed but not performed. The next couple of piece were written but neither rehearse or performed. Those first pieces reflected his interest in jazz, rock, and Latin American genres. The next year Eduardo's interest in modernism changed his compositional style and started implementing atonal concepts. His first performed piece was V. (2017) which mixed atonal and jazz concepts. V. was written for guitar and inspired by the Thomas Pynchon book of the same name. His second performed piece., Ajedrez (2018), was written for voice and guitar which was based on Jorge Luis Borges poem of the same name.

### **PROGRAM NOTES**

The Roman philosopher Cicero wrote a work by the name of On Moral Ends. This work presents a skeptical view on the topic of morality. The work questions what is the end goal of morality; some believe it to be pleasure, and others virtue, Cicero is not in favor of either and argues against both. The subject was the same throughout the work but the ideas presented were drastically different, which is a parallel the composer drew to this piece during its construction. In the same fashion the same general structure of this piece is repeated throughout but every time it repeats it presents a different idea. Another thing to note is that this piece was written simultaneously during the composer's reading of Cicero's work and although it is not directly based on the work, it is undoubtedly influenced by it.

### **PERFORMERS**

Jacqueline Guy, Violin

Kyle Motl, Double bass

Eduardo Jimenez, Guitar

## **Hyun Joong Kim**

### **BIO**

Hyun Joong Kim, now music student of UCSD Music Department, has been composing since he was a 15 years old and continued writing music since then. His music was heavily inspired by video game music while also being influenced by Korean traditional music and Western music. He has also created his own constructed language titled Neo-Language, which is used specifically for vocal music he has created. Hyun Joong Kim intends to utilize his stay in UCSD Music department as composition focus music major to assimilate use of music theory and compositional technique to utilize in his career as a video game music composer.

### **PROGRAM NOTES**

This piece was composed to test myself in using styles of composition that I am not confident in such as using guitar harmonics, overlaying different phrases, repetitive chord structure, very slow tempo, and variation on small ideas. The A and B section both revolves around repetition and variation, but the A section leans more on repeating/varying notes and the B section relies more on repeating/varying rhythm.

### **PERFORMERS**

Ian Barker, Trumpet

Hyun Joong Kim, Guitar

Joshua Choi, Piano

## **Zeng Ren**

### **BIO**

Zeng Ren is a math major as well as an undergraduate composer and jazz pianist in UCSD. Influenced by his interest with mathematics and the nature of Universe, Zeng's compositions often express philosophical ideas and abstract concepts. In spring 2018, he composed his first atonal vocal and piano duet "Product Topology". On the other hand, with his studies in Jazz with arranger Kamau Kenyatta, Zeng finds his personal way to connect extended harmonies with complex emotions; his first piano solo piece "Thread" uses harmonic ideas and improvisation from Jazz music. Zeng Ren is currently exploring the field of AI composing using his experience from music composition as well as mathematics and machine learning.

### **PROGRAM NOTES**

This piece depicts an adventure of a meteor's diving through the Earth's atmosphere. The composer Zeng Ren imagines himself as this meteor while imposing human emotions on inanimate objects such as vacuum, air, ocean and rocks.

### **PERFORMERS**

Luke Piszkin, Vibraphone

Zeng Ren, Piano

Kyle Motl, Double bass

## **Vincenzo Liberatore**

### **BIO**

Vincenzo Liberatore is a first-year transfer student studying Music Composition at UCSD. Growing up in Cincinnati Ohio, his father had been in the concert business since before he was born and therefore Vincenzo was heavily exposed to music from an early age. He first began to involve himself in creating music when he was 15 by writing lyrics over instrumental recordings and later picked up the guitar as his main instrument when he was 17 out of a yearning to be more directly involved with the sounds. The headphones just weren't cutting it anymore. It wasn't until 2013 when he was 19 that he decided he wanted to pursue music in an educational environment. As with any human pursuit, the journey in music is filled with tribulations but also with great joy and growth.

### **PROGRAM NOTES**

Collapse (2018) is a piece inspired by the inner conflicts of Self-Doubt and Frustration that a person can experience in life. In this case, it is specific to the frustrations the artist feels in the world of Musical Academia and how the jargon we are all involved in, although intended to communicate and expand one's own views, can sometimes be stifling to the artist. What's special about this piece is that while the parts for the instruments were written to stay as they are, the part of the 3rd performer can vary according to what they wish to communicate, in other words, what is making them feel like collapsing?

### **PERFORMERS**

Enock Choi, Clarinet

Chua Zong Ming, Piano

Vincenzo Liberatore, Conductor

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