

## **103C Undergraduate Composition Juries**

May 23, 2016 – 11:00 a.m.

Conrad Prebys Concert Hall

*Tale* – Niloufar Shiri

*Placeholder* – Alan Ng

*Encryption* – Sooyong Chu

*Under Her Dark Veil* – Colin Cruz

*Suffering* – Hesam Abedimi

Kirsten Wiest, soprano  
Sean Dowgray, percussion  
James Beauton, perucssion  
Judith Hamann, cello

*Tale* – Niloufar Shiri

Text: The Little Prince, chapter 17

“...when the little prince arrived on the Earth, he was very much surprised not to see any people. He was beginning to be afraid he had come to the wrong planet, when a coil of gold, the color of the moonlight, flashed across the sand.

“Good evening,” said the little prince courteously.

“Good evening,” said the snake...”

**NILOUFAR SHIRI**, performer, improviser, and composer, is a graduate of the Tehran Music Conservatory where she received her diploma on Persian music performance. In 2010, she joined the Sibarg Ensemble. Currently, she is studying and researching classical Persian music theory under the direction and supervision of Dr. Hossein Omoumi, Maseeh Professor of Music at the University of California, Irvine. Niloufar is currently pursuing her bachelor in composition at the University of California, San Diego.

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*Placeholder* – Alan Ng

On his way into the office,

He is stopped by the sight

of a single leaf

Gently caressed by a furious wind

Set against the backdrop of a leafless tree.

He stares, feeling a sense of symbolic significance.

But there is not any.

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*Encryption* – Sooyong Chu

*Encryption* gets its text from a reversed audio recording of 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. The whole piece revolves around the encrypted verses where the reversed text is encrypted again by instruments imitating the sonic representation of the text. Through *Encryption* I wanted to provoke an indisputable truth where the truth is so pure and valuable yet it is convoluted and many times ignored in today's world. The truth is love.

**SOOYONG CHU** transferred from Pasadena City College in 2013 and currently pursuing Interdisciplinary Computing and Arts Major (music emphasis) at UCSD. Soo played Violin since young age and started recording his own music after learning about digital audio workstations. Soo will pursue writing soundtracks for video games and cinematics after he graduates this Spring.

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Colin Cruz – *Under Her Dark Veil* - a new work.

**COLIN CRUZ** is a fourth year music student undergrad with a focus in composition at UCSD. Originally born in Manhattan, NY and then moving to Pennsylvania shortly after, most of his musical background stems from his parents who were both musical theater performers, with his dad spending ten years on the Broadway Theater stage in the production of *Miss Saigon*. Colin has played leading roles in shows including *Footloose*, *Oklahoma*, and *George M. Cohen* and has performed with various vocal music groups including a nationally competitive gospel choir known as Urbane, and won a competition to sing backup on the song “I Wanna Know What Love Is” with the famous rock band Foreigner during their national tour, when they passed through Pennsylvania. He studied voice with Mistro Peter Mark from the Virginia Opera company and performed in the choruses, with a few minor roles, in professional productions of *Porgy and Bess*, *La Traviatta*, and *Carmen*. He also studied musical theater performance along with arranging and performing instrumentally with renowned Broadway composers and pianists Mark Janas and Jimmy Roberts. He won the senior vocal award along with a \$500 prize for his performance of “Empty Chairs at Empty Tables” at the Sherman Theater in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania in 2010. In the same year he was also first chair in the tenor 1 section for the PMEA District and Regional chorus festivals. Since starting college, Colin's focus has evolved from performing to composing music, although he still works as the music director and primary arranger of the on-campus all-male acapella group Frequency. His love and fascination with sound continues to grow with every new composition, whether it be vocal, orchestral, or even electronic. Creating beautiful and captivating sonic experiences is his passion and sharing them with the world is his dream.

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*Suffering* – Hesam Abedimi

Poem: Ahmad Shāmlou

Translation: Fātemeh Keshāvarz

The world has never been a safe place for humans to live in since we learned how to kill. So many human beings have been labeled as casualties of war or displaced from their homes. So many had to flee to refugee camps after losing their families and friends, hoping to survive another day. Then there is the soldier who is forced to kill another human in the name of his country and people, with the hope to see another day and this is a common pain.

**HESAM ABEDINI** is a graduate of the Tehran Music School and founding member of the Sibarg Ensemble. He received his diploma in piano performance and composition and has also studied at the Yerevan Conservatory in Armenia for three years. Since 2011, he has been researching classical Persian music theory and studying the Persian vocal repertoire under the direction and supervision of Dr. Hossein Omoumi, Professor of Music at UCI. Currently, he is pursuing his bachelor in Music Composition from UCSD where he studies with Lei Liang, Katharina Rosenberger, Mark Dresser, and Anthony Davis.