

MUS 33A FINAL RECORDING

November 29, 2016 5:00PM

Conrad Prebys Music Center Recital Hall

Open – Justin Dingeman
Rachel Allen, trumpet

Journey – Huixin Yan
Yingqi Chen, cello

Vargas Variation – Yixuan Shao
Alex Vargas, double bass

Night of the Supermoon – Alec Hamilton
Michael Cohn, piano

6" – Nan Yi
Yixuan Shao(Nicole), violin

Serenity – Sara Gyi
Alec Hamilton, piano

Pain, a Day in the Life – Nathaniel Craig
Yixuan Shao(Nicole), violin

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Yixuan Shao(Nicole), violin

NOTES FROM THE COMPOSERS:

Justin Dingeman is a second year music major with an emphasis in composition from a small town in the Mojave Desert called Yucca Valley. He started playing music in fourth grade when he tried out the snare drum. Come to find out he didn't like it, he gave that up and tried choir in the fifth grade, eventually settling on the clarinet in sixth grade and stuck to it ever since. Justin played in various ensembles throughout high school, including county honor band and then decided to compose music for TV and film.

Journey, for solo cello, is written for the friendship between the performer and the composer. As the piece proceeds from separate melodies to polyphony, from different speeds to the same speed, and from dissonant to consonant double stops, it shows how two people with different personalities from getting acquainted to deeply sharing with each other. From strangers to close friends, they had a journey towards each other's heart. As dearest friends, they will also be on the journey of pursuing dreams together in the future. They went on a journey towards each other, and are going on a journey with each other. That is the reason why the piece is named *Journey*. While this piece is composed to show friendship, audience could listen to this piece as an expression of their own stories about friends, lovers, or family.

The intention for the piece, *Vargas Variation*, is to build a structure that allows the composer to delve into each variants and to connect the seemingly shattered modules. The rhythm and pitch selections of the foundation are inspired by the jazz standard 'Giant Step', while the variants are a further investigation of the selected materials.

Alec Hamilton started playing piano when he was 6, and starting composing at around 10, and fell in love with writing songs, pieces for piano, and pieces for strings, big band, and other ensembles. He takes a lot of influence from classical, rock, and jazz music and love combining elements from these styles into each piece he writes. His primary philosophy for composing is to create something that challenges some aspect of traditional harmony and brings something genuinely new to the world.

Note from Nan Yi: This guy is so lazy that didn't write anything but listen.

Sara Gyi is a second year student at UCSD. She has been doing music since she was very young, but this is her first time trying her hand at composition. Sara is familiar with piano, but is excited to see how this turns out in the end!

Nathanial Craig grew up in a small town where school band and church were the primary musical outlets, and always thought music would be a hobby. Upon arriving at UCSD, he decided he loved music too much to let it be just a hobby and decided to try for a career in composition, especially composition of video game music. Since his early teens, he has had to deal with chronic pain as a reality of daily life. The piece, *Pain, a Day in the Life*, is meant to tell the story of what a day in his life feels like and expresses the frustration and defeat that he struggles with.

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