



Student Composers Recital

Tradewinds (2017)

III. Shaanti (Peace)*

Kristen Hogan, alto flute

Kathryn Edom

Improvisations on the Embodiment of Expression (2017)*

I. Forlorn

II. Sanguine

III. Broken

Daniel Ponce, piano

Daniel Ponce

Assumptions are Dangerous (2017)

Smile with Caution (2017)

Tyler Wood, guitar

Tyler Wood

Etude No. 2: Lisztian Fantasy (2017)*

Charles Sykes, piano

Charles Sykes

INTERMISSION

Therapy (2017)

Zina Williams, electric guitar

Zina Williams

Tones of Sol (2017)*

I. Time/Space

II. Ashes and Embers

Luis Rubalcaba, piano

P. J. Geiger-Neal (Paul Neal)

Rabbits (2017)*

I.

II.

III.

IV.

Kristen Hogan, flute; Susan Levine, clarinet; Tyler Kashow, bassoon

Alan McMurdie

**World Premiere*

All of the composers are students of Dr. Stephen Blumberg



THURSDAY, 4:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 7, 2017
CAPISTRANO HALL 151

PROGRAM NOTES

"Shaanti" was inspired by Hindustani music, and the title comes from the Hindi word for peace. The piece follows a man meditating on the edge of a cliff as he searches for inner peace. It begins in the moments before dawn, when the world is dark and still. The man is seated on the cliff, facing many internal struggles as he meditates. It is not until the sun finally breaks the horizon that he overcomes his fears and achieves inner peace. – K. E.

Improvisations on the Embodiment of Expression is a journey into the soul of feeling. It's a set of improvisations inspired by the interpretation of emotions tied to various words. The words for this set are "Forlorn," "Sanguine," and "Broken." Forlorn signifies abandonment or loneliness. Sanguine represents optimism, and Broken implies a damaged constitution. Each improvisation will try and represent these feelings with the performer putting their own personal style into the pieces. – D. P.

Music is a reflection of self. The titles are my outlook and the music is how I feel about it. It's not perfect, but my perspective and feelings are the only thing I can rely on in this world. – T. W.

Lisztian Fantasy is a Romantic style etude inspired by Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2 with a Spanish influence. As an etude, the idea is to teach the student control and independence of hands at fast tempos. – C. S.

Improvisation is one of the key ways composers create new ideas. *Therapy* is mostly improvised with only; only 6 of the notes being written down as a theme I can return to to mesh all of the ideas I present together. – Z. W.

The concept of a drone produced by a tone generator came to me while listening to Indian Classical music, and I soon discovered an app which imitates a Shruti Box. Each of the movements of *Tones of Sol* uses the drone as the continuous stream of consciousness within the confines Spacetime (Time/Space) or Life (Ashes and Embers). – P. N.

The title *Rabbits* is very literal, as this piece was inspired by my vision of a classic animation that is centered on a community of rabbits. The first movement is the prologue, and is meant to set the tone for the rest of the piece. In the second movement, the instruments imitate the rabbits hopping around and enjoying a typical day in their community. A stalking predator comes into play in the third movement, represented by the bassoon. This leads right into the finale, where the chase is on. Fortunately, the predator ultimately fails in catching his dinner. – A. M.