



ARE WE THERE YET?
CREATION BY OMISSION
A Production of Music 119: Composition Practicum

Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.
Distler Performance Hall

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Granoff Music Center, Tufts University

PROGRAM

PART 1

Ukulele Opener Lillian Kirk
Lillian Kirk, ukulele

Omission of Life Jeannette Chechile
John McDonald, piano

In this piece, as the listener's expectations are shaped by the gradual unfolding of the composition, elements of the music are eliminated, metaphorically reflecting on the declining quality of life. Rage against the loss. (JC)

Solo Mohammed Abdel Wahab
(1901-1991)
3-Minute Sama'i Jonathan Ataria
Jonathan Ataria, oud; John McDonald, piano

Lore of Longing Yasaman Ghodsi
(Poem by Hafez)
Joseph Rondeau, voice; Samuel Graber-Hahn, violin

1. sahar ba ba migoftam hadiseh arezoumandi
Khatab amad ke vasegh sho be altafe khodavandi
2. doaye sobh o ahe shab kelide ganje maghsoud ast
Bedin raho ravesh miro ke ba deldar peyvandi

1. I shared with the morning breeze the ancient lore of (my) longing
A voice replied: rely on God's infinite grace
2. Morning prayers and late-night sighs are the key to attain the relished
treasure
follow this path that you may reach the threshold of the beloved

Hafez was a 14th century Persian poet who "lauded the joys of love and wine but also targeted religious hypocrisy." (YG)

Please silence all electronic devices during the performance.

PART 2

Out of the Window Wen Gao
John McDonald, piano

I am the cheese... Jacquelyn Hazle
Jacquelyn Hazle, soprano

I am the cheese... is named after and inspired by the short novel of the same title by Robert Cormier. It's about a boy, Adam Farmer, whose parents enroll in the Witness Protection Program but eventually are murdered in a plotted car accident and Adam winds up in a mental hospital unable to cope with his tragedy. He retreats into his own world where he sings, "The Farmer in the Dell" or "The cheese stands alone, the cheese stands alone, high-ho, the merry-o, the cheese stands alone," to himself over and over. Cormier's creative use of the song is a perplexing recurring motif throughout the book and turns into an effective metaphor for isolation at the end of the book when Adam declares, "I am the cheese." I am the cheese for solo voice explores loneliness and isolation through an anonymous character (may be of any vocal type) who is struggling to make heads or tails of their situation. (JH)

Withdrawals George Behrakis
John McDonald, piano

PART 3

Id Tucker Donelan
Tucker Donelan, violin

Myst Quinate Emmanuel Feldman
John McDonald, piano

Trio Joseph Rondeau
1. Trombone and Piano
2. Silent Partner (Horn Solo; Piano Foot)
3. Horn, Trombone, and Piano

Joseph Rondeau, horn; Andrew Daetz, trombone; John McDonald, piano

This trio of miniatures written for Creation by Omission was composed using the idea if limits. The first movement uses the lowest register of the trombone and the pianist is limited to one hand in the higher register. Silent Partner is a duet that is truly a solo for horn using the harmonics of the piano. For this movement the pianist is limited to holding down the damper pedal. The final movement is a trio for horn, trombone, and piano. Each instrumental part is limited to a single F to F octave: F2-F3 for the trombone, F3-F4 for the horn, and F5-F6 for the piano. (JR)