

CHANDA  
THE DECOLONIZA

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A One-Act Opera  
by  
D. Q. Pham

# CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Character	Vocal Range	Race/Ethnic Identity	Gender
CHANDA	Soprano	Black/Mixed	Woman
A prominent theoretical physicist in the field of early universe cosmology.			
PRISTINE	Alto		
A science poet and writer.			

# SET DESIGNS

Page	Location	SET   props
1.	Observatory	TELESCOPES   COMPUTERS   chairs   notebook   pen
2.	Deck	

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

♫#	Title	Character (s)	Instruments
1.	Stardust Off	CHANDA	Shaker   Guitars
2.	Decoloniality	CHANDA   PRISTINE	Drum Set   Guitar
3.	Get Dome Safely		Guitar

## 1. STARDUST OFF

SCENE i

*[Observatory]*

*(CHANDA stands around. She admires the dome.  
She sings.)*

*(PRISTINE fretfully enters, carrying a notebook  
and a pen.)*

**PRISTINE**

I am here for our interview?

*(CHANDA pulls up a chair for PRISTINE.)*

I admire your work and cannot wait to publish it in our science journal. Firstly, why are you taking this position in this observatory in the middle of nowhere... And not the multiple-meters one in Hawaii?

## 2. DECOLONALITY

*(CHANDA melodically answers.)*

DON'T UNDERSTAND. A BIGGER PICTURE.

*(CHANDA motions a community.)*

THIS IS ALL TOO MUCH FOR ME GEEZ. JUST AN AVERAGE SCIENCE WRITER. I NEED TO LOOK INTO THIS SUBJECT.

*(Writing in the notebook.)*

**PRISTINE** (cont.)

THE COLONIZATION OF HAWAIIAN ISLANDS. THE POWER OF THE  
MILITANT COMMUN-TY. THE GRIP OF THE VACATIONING  
BUS-NESS. WHAT COULD ALL OF THIS MEAN?

*(CHANDA motions a burning world.)*

*(PRISTINE melodically retorts.)*

*(CHANDA leads PRISTINE out.)*

<b>3. GET DOME SAFELY</b>
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SCENE ii

*[Deck]*

*(PRISTINE bittersweetly leaves, simultaneously  
wise and perplexed.)*

*Fin*

Score

# STARDUST OFF

Chanda the Decoloniza

D. Q. PHAM

Grave

CHANDA

Shaker

Guitar I

Guitar II

9

CHANDA

Shaker

Guitar I

Guitar II

16

CHANDA

Shaker

Guitar I

Guitar II

<https://www.dramasocial.com/spirits/1608011300/work/drama/~musicals/2020>

22

CHANDA

Shaker

Guitar I

Guitar II

Measures 22-28. CHANDA (vocals) has a melodic line starting at measure 22. Shaker (percussion) has a steady eighth-note pattern. Guitar I (lead) has a melodic line with bends and a final flourish. Guitar II (bass) has a simple bass line with a key signature change to one sharp (F#) at measure 27.

29

CHANDA

Shaker

Guitar I

Guitar II

Measures 29-32. CHANDA (vocals) continues the melodic line. Shaker (percussion) continues the eighth-note pattern. Guitar I (lead) has a melodic line with bends. Guitar II (bass) continues the bass line.

33

CHANDA

Shaker

Guitar I

Guitar II

Measures 33-36. CHANDA (vocals) has a melodic line. Shaker (percussion) has a steady eighth-note pattern. Guitar I (lead) has a melodic line with bends. Guitar II (bass) has a steady eighth-note pattern.

# 2 DECOLONIALITY

*Chanda the Decoloniza*

D. Q. PHAM

Andante

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar

7

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Don't un-der-stand.

Drum Set

Guitar

13

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar

<https://www.badassclerk.com/split-sheet/100/askkila3/physicals/2/20>

18

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar

21

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar

25

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar

A big-ger pic-

F E C B

ture. This is all too much for me geez. Just an ave-rage sci-ence wri-ter.

A A E E B7



29

CHANDA

PRISTINE

I need to look in-to this subject. The co - lo-ni-za-tion of Ha-wai-ian is-lands. The

Drum Set

Guitar

E A E B7 E A

34

CHANDA

PRISTINE

po-wer of the mi-li-tant com - mun-ty. The grip of va-cat-ion-ing busi - ness. What could

Drum Set

Guitar

E B7 E A

38

CHANDA

PRISTINE

all of this mean?

Drum Set

Guitar

E B7

44

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar

F E C B A

Detailed description: This system contains measures 44 through 50. CHANDA's vocal line begins at measure 44 with a half note, followed by a quarter note, and then rests. PRISTINE's vocal line starts at measure 45 with a half note, followed by a quarter note, and then rests. The Drum Set maintains a steady rhythm of eighth notes. The Guitar part features a sequence of chords: F, E, C, B, and A, each held for a measure starting from measure 45.

51

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar

Detailed description: This system contains measures 51 through 55. CHANDA is silent. PRISTINE's vocal line starts at measure 51 with a half note, followed by a quarter note, and then rests. The Drum Set continues its steady rhythm. The Guitar is silent throughout this system.

56

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar

Detailed description: This system contains measures 56 through 60. CHANDA is silent. PRISTINE's vocal line starts at measure 56 with a half note, followed by a quarter note, and then rests. The Drum Set continues its steady rhythm. The Guitar is silent throughout this system.

61

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar



63

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar



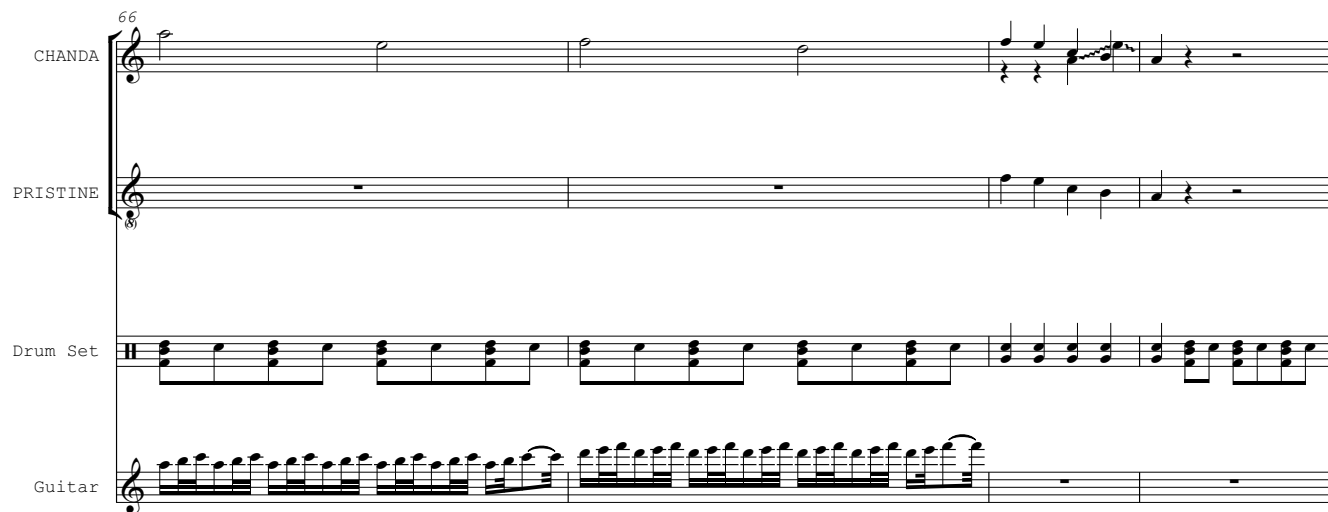
66

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar



81

CHANDA

PRISTINE

Drum Set

Guitar

The image shows a musical score for a song, likely 'The Sound of Silence' based on the lyrics. It features four staves: CHANDA (Vocal), PRISTINE (Vocal), Drum Set (Percussion), and Guitar (Instrumental). The score is written in 4/4 time. The CHANDA staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The PRISTINE staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Drum Set staff has a double bar line and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Guitar staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The CHANDA staff has a melodic line with a high note (G#5) in the final measure. The PRISTINE staff has a melodic line with a high note (G#5) in the final measure. The Drum Set staff has a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Guitar staff has a melodic line with a high note (G#5) in the final measure.

Score

# **GET DOME SAFELY**

*Chanda the Decoloniza*

D. Q. PHAM

Guitar

*Prestissimo*

9

17

25

Guitar