kallisti ensemble
mus 201A  fall 2010
prof susan narucki

instant operas

six fifteen minute operas by:

jeffrey treviño
kyle rowan
ryan welsh
andrew allen and meghann welsh
carolyn chen
bob pierzak and paul feyertag

performed by:

andrew allen
jessica aszodi
carolyn chen
eric derr
tiffany du mouchelle
paul feyertag
leslie leytham
susan narucki
brendan nguyen
bob pierzak
kyle rowan
christine tavolacci
jeffrey treviño
meghann welsh
ryan welsh

lighting design by:

nick patin
Orbiting

Orbiting is a one-act, science-fiction opera adapted from the short story by award-winning author Anthony Ha.

Composer Jeffrey Treviño
Sound Design David Corsello

Cast
Mia Tiffany Du Mouchelle
Jane Jessica Aszodi

The Eighth Daughter

According to Japanese legend, Susano, the Shinto deity of storms, saves a family from a terrible eight-headed serpent who was devouring each of their daughters in turn. In return, the family gives Susano their only remaining daughter in marriage, and he is praised for his great deed. What legend does not address is whether the parents, not knowing that help will come, can cope with the imminent loss of their eighth and final daughter, and whether Kushinada, the remaining daughter, is able to accept this sacrificial role she did not choose for herself. Kyle Rowan’s micro-opera “The eighth daughter” addresses these questions in four scenes that provide windows into the world of a desperate family facing the seemingly inevitable.

Composer Kyle Rowan

Cast/Musicians
Kushinada Meghann Welsh
Nanako Tiffany Du Mouchelle
Miyanushi Susan Narucki
Ashinadzu Jeffrey Treviño

Flute Christine Tavolacci
Bass Viol Paul Feyertag
Piano Brendan Nguyen
Conductor Kyle Rowan
Mother Goose’s Mad Lib

Mother Goose’s Mad Lib is an imagining of the sonic similarities of a number of nursery rhymes. These rhymes comically performed by a cast and chorus, collide and tumble, forming collages of recollection and nostalgia from a bygone era. These rhymes and attached songs form part of what one might call “childhood” and the nonsense nature of collision and correlation recalls the way one might categorize “play”. This childish rambling and wandering, play and practice is a celebration of our shared childhood folk traditions.

Composer       Ryan Welsh

Cast:          Andrew Allen, Jessica Aszodi, Carolyn Chen, Eric Derr, Tiffany Du Mouchelle, Paul Feyertag, Leslie Leytham, Brendan Nguyen, Robert Pierzak, Kyle Rowan, Christine Tavolacci, Jeffrey Trevino, Meghann Welsh,

INTERMISSION

Muumuucachuu

Muumuucachuu is a game opera. A set of predetermined rules guides the performers in their interaction with the game board and fellow players; the execution of the game is left up to the individual players’ interpretation of the rules and strategic choices. In this game, the board is a city street map and the players represent characters from Bill Griffith’s Zippy comic strip. The adventure unfolds as the players encounter various roadside attractions and traffic laws. The first player to reach the Doggy Diner and snack on a hamburger wins the game.

“When I’m doing a Zippy strip, I’m aware that I’m weaving elements together, almost improvising, as if I were all the instruments in a little jazz combo, then stepping back constantly to edit and fine-tune. Playing with language is what delights Zippy the most.” - Bill Griffith, author of Zippy.

Composers       Meghann Welsh and Andrew Allen

Cast:          Andrew Allen, Jessica Aszodi, Tiffany Du Mouchelle, Leslie Leytham, Meghann Welsh
The Little Mermaid

A fairy tail dissolves into sea foam. In small movements.

Composer: Carolyn Chen

Cast
Soloists Tiffany Du Mouchelle, Leslie Leytham, Meghann Welsh
Chorus Andrew Allen, Jessica Aszodi, Carolyn Chen, Paul Feyertag, Brendan Nguyen, Robert Pierzak, Kyle Rowan, Jeffrey Trevino
Percussion Eric Derr
Flute: Christine Tavolacci

Whale Whale: whale has no meaningful relationships except for pooping

For thousands of years, pigs have ridiculed and persecuted poop-lovers of all stripes. Meanwhile, Shamu, a well-known fecalphiliac, is constipated. With no end in sight, Shamu’s luck all of a sudden changes. For one day, an evil pig serendipitously lands in Shamu’s tank, and is then eaten by Shamu (much to the dismay of his trainers and audience). Miraculously, the villain pig is transformed into the very poo which Shamu loves so well. The world celebrates and the United Nations declares the first international holiday: Caca-Poopy-Doo-Doo-Day!

Composers Robert Pierzak and Paul Feyertag

Cast
Shamu Paul Feyertag
Poo Bob Pierzak
Sea World Trainers Lesley Leytham, Meghann Welsh
Chorus and musicians Andrew Allen, Christine Tavolacci, Eric Derr, Ryan Welsh

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Special thanks to Music Department Staff and Faculty: Jenn Stauffer, Nick Patin, Tom Erbe, Dirk Sutro, Brady Baker, Barbara Jackson, Neal Bociek for their endless help and support.