

Fall Composition Jury Concert

Thursday, November 1, 2018 – 7:30 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Concert Hall

Wave Coming ...

Anqi Liu

Skalugsuak

Sammi Jo Stone

The Same Wind

Alex Stephenson

Performers

Jonathan Nussman, baritone

Wilfrido Terrazas, flutes

Alexandria Smith, trumpet

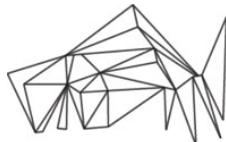
Chris Clarino, percussion

Ashley Zhang, piano

Matthew Kline, double bass

Dimitrios Paganos Koukakis, keyboard

Steven Schick, conductor



Program Notes

Skalugsuak is one of several Inuit names for the Greenland shark, a mysterious animal that is currently believed to be the longest-living vertebrate. In order to maintain a metabolism for upwards of three centuries, this animal is also the slowest-moving animal relative to its size. The shark's habitat is cold, dark, and alien; the animal himself is a large and odorous carnivore, and is accompanied from birth by cornea-devouring parasites. This piece is a song for baritone voice and mixed ensemble, with a text that evokes interesting aspects of the Greenland shark's environs and natural history, from a first-person (and first-shark) perspective.

Skalugsuak

...O realm of sleep, where water sinks beneath water to touch the pale ghosts of Anenome, endowed with pale resilience by she who created (she who makes) the tides.

...I have traded my two eyes for constant companionship. Mine, they are the mildest of enemies, the quietest of friends, and my eyes, only feeble accomplices for hunting shadows from beneath the ice.

...The sun does not illuminate those paths of static charges that lead to love in the dark and secret deep. Love can not mar my centuries of solitude, nor the centuries of solitude yet to come.

The Same Wind is a setting of and reflection upon Wallace Stevens' poem "The Snow Man," which has haunted me for several years. Taking inspiration from Stevens' portrayal of his character—who is on the cusp of drifting away from traditionally understood human consciousness and who, I imagine, might be starting to lose the ability to speak—I aimed to create vocal writing that approaches lyricism while also being highly fragmentary. In the first half of the piece, there is a stark alternation between music that sets Stevens' text and music that does not; in the second half, the boundaries between these musics become blurred, just as Stevens' character gradually blends into the vast, wintry landscape in which she or he is situated. My greatest thanks to this evening's performers for their collaboration and artistry in bringing this project to life.

About the Composers

ANQI LIU is a human being living on the earth.

She likes making noise and music; taking pictures and traveling around to know other individuals.

Sometimes a sound artist, a composer;
often times a trouble maker.

SAMMI JO STONE is from Baker City, Oregon. As a composer, she is inspired by baroque ensemble music, jazz, and minimalism, and enjoys creating texts and musical programs around compelling and humorous aspects of the natural world. She is thankful to Roger Reynolds, Anthony Davis, the composition faculty, Steve Schick, Jessica Flores, and especially the juries ensemble for this opportunity to share her music.

Originally from Philadelphia, **ALEX STEPHENSON** has been a composition fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center, the Académie Voix Nouvelles at Royaumont, and the Composers Conference at Wellesley College. He has had work programmed and/or commissioned by the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Fondation Royaumont, New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Civitas Ensemble, and, as a result of receiving the Brian M. Israel Prize, the Society for New Music, among others. Alex earned degrees from the University of Chicago, the Guildhall School of Music & Drama (where he was a Fulbright scholar), and the Eastman School of Music prior to commencing doctoral studies at UC San Diego in 2017.

Upcoming Concerts

La Jolla Symphony & Chorus Young People's Concert
Friday, November 2, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Mandeville Auditorium

Kawamura Pianos Project
Friday, November 2, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Music Center Experimental Theater

La Jolla Symphony & Chorus
Saturday, November 3 & 4, 2018 – 7:30 p.m.
Mandeville Auditorium

Hillary Jean Young, soprano - Graduate Recital
Monday, November 5, 2018 – 5:00 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Music Center Experimental Theater

Kirsten Ashley Wiest Recital
Monday, November 5, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Music Center Recital Hall

Camera Lucida
Monday, November 5, 2018 – 7:30 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Concert Hall

Contact us for information on upcoming concerts:
Music Box Office: (858) 534-3448 | <http://music.ucsd.edu/concerts>

Audience members are reminded to please silence all phones and noise-generating devices before the performance, and to remain seated during the performance. As a matter of courtesy and copyright law, no unauthorized recording or photography is allowed in the hall. UC San Diego is a non-smoking campus.

Technical Production Specialist - David Espiritu, Jr.
Caroline Louise Miller, composer - chimes