

Interlochen, Michigan 53rd Program of the 60th Year

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INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Keith Aleo, director

Thursday, October 28, 2021 7:30pm, Dendrinos Chapel/Recital Hall

INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Keith Aleo, director Connor Stevens, percussion teaching assistant

> with faculty soloist Laura Osgood Brown, soprano

PROGRAM

Träd
"Un grand sommeil noir" Edgard Varèse (1885-1965) arr. Connor Stevens Laura Osgood Brown, soprano
"Song to the Moon" from RusalkaAntonín Dvořák (1841-1904) adapt. Nathan Daughtrey Laura Osgood Brown, soprano
—PAUSE—
Marimba Spiritual
Recover

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Lucy Chugh, N.Y.
Zeyi Guo, China
Brenna Lantz-Lewis, Mich.
Deqi Mu, China
Yizhang Qiang, China
Grace Schlett, Mich.
Jay Walton, Mich.
Able Zhou, China

PROGRAM NOTES

Träd John Eriksson

Träd, meaning "Forest of Hands," is a showcase of the marimba's textural range. John Eriksson draws from his influences of classical percussion and popular music to create a world in which sound echoes and rings into eternity. Following minimalist tradition, each player drives the piece forward with an individual motive, while melodies float above the undulating chord progressions. The piece ends with an explosion of color and light as the dark C-Minor tonality resolves into E-Flat major.

"Un grand sommeil noir"

Edgard Varèse

Translated simply as "A Deep Black Sleep", this work was written in 1906 when Varèse was a composition student of Charles-Marie Widor and is the earliest of his published works to survive. The setting of the poem by Paul Verlaine was originally written for voice and piano and we hear it tonight, for the first time, as arranged by Connor Stevens, for percussion orchestra and voice.

A long black sleep Descends upon my life: Sleep, all hope, Sleep, all desire!

I can no longer see anything, I am losing my remembrance Of the bad and the good . . . Oh, the sad story!

I am a cradle That is rocked by a hand In the depth of a vault. Silence, silence!

"Song to the Moon" from Rusalka

Antonín Dvořák

This particular aria is sung by the title character, Rusalka, in the opera's first act. Rusalka is the daughter of a water-goblin who wants nothing more than to be human after she falls in love with a hunter/prince who frequents the lake in which she lives. Rusalka sings this song asking the moon to reveal her love to the prince.

Moon, high and deep in the sky Your light sees far, You travel around the wide world, and see into people's homes. Moon, stand still a while and tell me where is my dear. Tell him, silvery moon, that I am embracing him.

For at least momentarily let him recall of dreaming of me.
Illuminate him far away, and tell him, tell him who is waiting for him!
If his human soul is, in fact, dreaming of me, may the memory awaken him!
Moonlight, don't disappear, disappear!

Marimba Spiritual

Minoru Miki

Marimba Spiritual was written in 1983-84 as a response to the starvation and famine happening across the African continent during the 1980's. It is dedicated to Japanese marimba virtuoso Keiko Abe and is written in two distinct sections: a slow, static requiem followed by a lively resurrection. Marimba Spiritual is written for solo marimba accompanied by three percussionists on western and traditional Japanese instruments.

Recover Aeryn Santillan

Santillan's Recover is one of six pieces in a consortium commissioning project, entitled "Everybody Hits," organized by percussionist Adam Groh of Western Carolina University. Interlochen Center for the Arts was one 44 educational institutions that co-commissioned this diverse group of living composers for a wide range of ages and ability levels.

In Adam's own words:

"I'm organizing a commission for a set of new percussion ensemble works that brings together some of my favorite things... chamber music, creating new pieces/collaborating with awesome composers, and supporting composers from underrepresented groups!"

Santillan is a composer, guitarist, and bassist whose work is heavily influenced by the DIY punk scene and actively aims to blur the lines between band/ensemble and song/composition. These influences are the foundation to the work.

For Interlochen Arts Academy faculty bios please visit our website at interlochen.org/directory/faculty.

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