

Student Recital

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GRADUATE RECITAL

Cori Matney, percussion

8:00pm, Monday, April 10, 2023

Jim and Joyce Faulkner Performing Arts Center

University of Arkansas

PROGRAM

Taxidermy

Caroline Shaw (b. 1982)

Christain Leon, marimba

Juan Santos- Sierra, vibraphone

Yoshio Yamashita, flowerpots

My Lady White

Savid Maslanka (1943-2017)

I. Madrigal: My Lady White

II. Spring.. birds sing.. a gift of rings

III. For pretty Alison

INTERMISSION

Road to You

Pat Metheny (b.1954), arr. Jeremey Muller

Canticle

Stanley Leonard (b.1931)

I.

II.

Diametrically the Same

Nick Heiborn (b.1998)

Ian Gunnarschja, tenor saxophone

Cori Matney is student of Prof. Chalon Ragsdale and Prof. Fernando Valencia

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the Master of Music in Percussion Performance

PROGRAM NOTES

Taxidermy- Caroline Shaw has written over 100 pieces in the last 10 years for many famous musicians and groups. She writes for many different instruments and voices and tries to “imagine a world of sound that has never been heard before but has always existed.” As for the name taxidermy, Shaw finds the word compelling and thinks that it explains this piece well. On her website, Shaw says her favorite color is yellow, and she enjoys the smell of rosemary. This piece is undoubtedly fun to play. As a percussionist I love playing on weird mediums, like the flowerpots. Taxidermy is a piece of events, there is so much space for interpretation and variation each time it is played.

My Lady White-The title of this work is a reference to a poem by Geoffrey Chaucer, The Boke of Blanche, The Duchesse (The book of the Duchess) written in 1396. Unfortunately, it’s too long to include here, but Chaucer wrote it for the Blanche, who was his courtly love, at the time of her death. It describes a woman who was “supremely modest, yet easily approachable, refines, temperate, lighthearted and pious without sternness or coldness.” Maslanka used this poem as a basis for his entire three movement work. All of which are considered madrigals because he wanted to capture the moments of tension and emotion.

Road to You is a piece written by Pat Metheny. Metheny and I both graduated from Lee’s Summit High School; however, he graduated in 1972, and I graduated in 2017. This piece translates beautifully to vibraphone and was arranged by Jeremy Muller. One of the main challenges of this piece is being soloist and accompaniment all at the same time. The album, Road to You, won the Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Jazz Performance.

Canticle is a classic Stanley Leonard piece. Timpani solos written by Stanley Leonard are focus on the use of the pedal to change the pitches of the drums. In some sections the gliss sound is meant to be heard, but in others the movement must occur almost simultaneously to the hit of the drum to hide the gliss sound and just get the pure note. The first movement opens with dramatic glissandos and free time and finishes with a unique pattern that easily gets stuck in one’s

head. The second movement is in 7/8 and highlights that gliss sound in a repetitive groove.

Diametrically the Same is a piece by Nick Heilborn. This piece is very challenging. The first challenge is the obvious differences in Saxophone and Marimba, or vibraphone, the way the sound is produced, the speed at which sound is produced, the need for breathing, and the lack of the need for breathing. The second challenge is the unique time signatures Heilborn uses, such as 4+3+4+3/16, or 5+5/16, 2/4+1/8+2/4, the piece travels through these time signatures very quickly, sometimes only staying in one for just a measure at most. The third challenge is the number of instruments each performer must play, Saxophone and a bass drum, marimba and vibraphone, and most often playing both instruments at the same time. However, this song has an amazing groove that so fun to listen to and play.