Premieres Across Music History: From 1607 to 2019

Performers
David Ramirez, flute
Monseerrat Garcia Campos, oboe
Michael Mesner, horn
Nikko Lopez, euphonium
Jacob Lewis Ransom, percussion
Kristen Lucas, soprano
Sarah Redlhammer, mezzo
John McMeen, tenor
John Willis, baritone
David Kurt Bagley, choreographer/dancer
Jared Aragón, conductor

Featuring the world premiere of Daveen Fox Composer-in-Residence
Kari Ann Kreiter’s
Reverie of a Monk
(for chamber ensemble and dancer)

Thursday, April 25, 2019
Crowder Hall
11:00 a.m.
About the Music

Reverie of a Monk is a celebration of the arts. Composed for a chamber ensemble of nine players, dancer and conductor, this programmatic work is inspired by a painting titled Monk by the Sea by German Romantic painter Caspar David Friedrich. Following the inspiration from this beautiful visual, I wrote an 80-page book as a back-story to the figure of the monk and his contemplations during one day at the beach depicted in the artwork. In turn, the music was composed, employing a variety of styles and techniques to portray the monk and his ponderings. Finally, the dancer is added as the monk and combines with the musicians to emotionally explore conflict and resolution. The piece uses minimal, yet poignant, text: “O Domine, exaudi orationem meam” and “Pax” (O Lord, hear my prayer/Peace), as the story is told primarily through the music itself. While there are no separate movements, the work does follow the chapter order from the book: Lost in the Vast Expanse, Fear, Loneliness, Temptation and Guilt, Joy, Peace, A Full Heart, and A Place in the Universe. The monk and his reflections on the joys and pains of life and possibilities for the future are meant to represent our shared struggles as human beings confronting an ever-evolving existence.

-Kari Kreiter

About the Composer

Kari Kreiter is currently the Daveen Fox Composer-in-Residence for the Fred Fox School of Music. She is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Music Composition at the University of Arizona under Professor Daniel Asia. She has a master’s degree in music composition and a bachelor’s degree in music education (vocal/piano emphasis), both from California State University, Sacramento, where she studied composition with Stephen Blumberg and voice with Claudia Kitka. Kari is a member of the Solano Community College music faculty, has worked as a private instructor in voice and piano, worked as a director of music for an organization as the choir director and accompanist, has performed as a soloist and with a variety of groups as a pianist and vocalist, and has completed prior commissions while working to build a compositional portfolio of distinctive music. Kari is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda (National Music Honor Society), Phi Kappa Phi (National Honor Society), and ASCAP.

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PROGRAM

World Premiere

Reverie of a Monk .................................................. Kari Ann Kreiter
for chamber ensemble and dancer

This event brings together composition, performance, and scholarship at the University of Arizona to feature the world premiere of Reverie of a Monk, a new work by graduate composer Kari Ann Kreiter. This premiere takes place as the final meeting of the course MUS130B (Introduction to Music Literature). Throughout the semester, students in the course have explored five world premieres across music history; L’Orfeo by Claudio Monteverdi (1607), Messiah by George Frideric Handel (1742), Ludwig van Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9 (1824), Hector Berlioz’s Symphonie Fantastique (1830) and The Rite of Spring by Igor Stravinsky (1913). Kari Ann Kreiter’s new composition, commissioned specifically for MUS130B, is the course’s sixth and final world premiere.

This project has been made possible by the Daveen Fox Endowed Chair for Music Studies.