

GCSU Department of Music

Sound Sculptures XIX

“Journeys & Remembrance”

Dr. David H. Johnson, director

Thursday, April 25, 2024, 7:30 p.m.
Max Noah Recital Hall



Program

Unclouded Eyes

Cole Lazich
(b. 2002)

EKG: An EDM Experience

DJ UpLiphter
(b. 1985)

Metamorphosis

Aidan Fortenberry
(b. 2001)

Reflections of the Soul

Anna Matthews
(b. 2001)

Gulfport Ashes

Ethan Chase
(b. 2003)

America's Deadliest Enemy: 22 '2' Many

Arron Holland
(b. 1985)

The Golden Louis

Aidan Fortenberry

Have You Ever Had a Dream?

Jacob Bosarge
(b. 2003)

Program Notes

Unclouded Eyes - Cole Lazich

“Unclouded Eyes” was a test for me. It was a test to see what I can create by using electronic music and I wanted to give it my all. When I was first given this task, I instantly looked towards Pink Floyd for inspiration, specifically their album *Wish You Were Here*. The tracks on that album contain sounds I had never heard before...and they inspired me to make something of my own. One song off the album, “Welcome to the Machine,” stood out to me from the others with its use of a synthesizer. The sounds they were able to make and use on the track were brilliant and effortlessly blended in with the rest of the instruments present, it was truly an amazing experience listening to it for the first time. It wasn’t until taking Dr. Johnson’s Music Technology 1 class last semester that I realized that I wanted to try and make music, so I am very grateful that he has been able to provide me with the tools, knowledge, and resources to make a dream of mine come true.

EKG: An EDM Experience - DJ UpLiphter

“EKG” is inspired by my newly found interest in electronic dance music. The composition starts with the first signs of life; the heartbeat. Gradually, each new section compliments the heartbeat, adding complexity to the rhythm. Finally, each section begins to fade, leaving only the simple, yet complex heartbeat.

Metamorphosis - Aidan Fortenberry

When I started working on *Metamorphosis*, I set out to make something in contrast to “The Golden Louis”. I came up with the idea of writing a piece that would start off with a simple theme played on a few instruments which would gradually incorporate more instruments and custom sound effects into it to create a wall of sound. Once the piece hits its climax, it gradually starts to decay, with each instrument slowly fading out until only the original theme is left playing.

Reflections of the Soul - Anna Matthews

“Reflections of the Soul” is a piece that encourages you to breathe for a moment and reflect on your life. The free meter allows for you to not be tethered to a beat, but rather allow yourself to flow with the music. The mood of the piece changes as rolls of thunder become louder and louder, just like how our thoughts are often never in one consistent state. You are free to let your mind wander and question what has led you to this moment. What are you grateful for? What can you change?

Gulfport Ashes – Ethan Chase

A large part of this piece was written in reflection of both my spring break and how I grew as a musician this last school year. Most of my work for this project is based on midi recorded in logic and mastered in ProTools. My vocals and bass were recorded and edited by myself in ProTools, and the guitar was recorded into ProTools by Joey Johnson and edited by me. I would also like to thank all of my friends for putting up with me talking to them about all the various musical ideas I included in my composition.

America's Deadliest Enemy: 22 '2' Many - Arron Holland

"America's Deadliest Enemy" looks to increase awareness and understanding towards our nation's veterans, that are suffering from mental health issues. This piece features various rhythmic influences that are paired with photos, portraying internal wars that veterans fight each day.

Unnoticed-Unseen-Unrecognized

The Golden Louis - Aidan Fortenberry

"The Golden Louis" is an American drama film written by Edward Acker and directed by D. W. Griffith. The film begins on a snowy winter's day with a poor elderly woman sending a little girl out into the streets to beg for money. The little girl soon becomes tired from the cold and from begging and soon passes out on a set of stairs. The film then cuts to a man in a gambling hall who can be seen gambling away all of his money. While the gambler this is happening, a nobleman leaves the same gambling hall and stumbles upon the unconscious little girl. Seeing that she had been begging for money, the nobleman takes out a golden coin (the French Louis d'or) and places it in one of the little girl's shoes, leaving soon after. The film then returns to the gambler who leaves the gambling hall after losing all of his money and too finds the little girl unconscious. After taking pity on the girl the gambler finds the golden Louis and sees another opportunity to win his money back. He then debates with himself if he can really steal from a begging little girl but then realizes that if he wins his money back, he can return and give some of the money to the girl. The gambler then takes the coin to the gambling hall and manages to win his money back. In the middle of his excitement, he remembers the little girl and flees to give her the money. Before the gambler can return, the little girl wakes up and leaves the steps and continues begging and wandering the streets. Realizing the girl is missing, the gambler then begins to search for the little girl. The girl soon stops her wandering and once again collapses on a set of stairs, this time dying from the cold. The film ends with the gambler finding the body of the little girl, throwing away his winnings and sobbing with the little girl in his arms.

For this project, I worked to come up with different themes to help identify the different characters (the little girl and the gambler), locations (the gambling hall, and the stairs), and forces (such as death).

Have You Ever Had a Dream? - Jacob Bosarge

This song features a resampling and reimagining of the "have you ever had a dream" kid. The goal was to match up the specific rhythms and pitches of the kid's voice with the instrumental track. You'll notice certain drum hits or rhythmic emphasis that matches with the speech, pauses, and stutters of the vocals. That all comes together to make a song that is hopefully just as funny as it is enjoyable to listen to.

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