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Senior Composition Recital

Jon Harmon

Chapman University

New Music Ensemble

Chapman Chamber Orchestra

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CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
Conservatory of Music

presents the

Senior Composition Recital

of

JON HARMON

with members of the

New Music Ensemble

&

Chapman Chamber Orchestra

Salmon Recital Hall
Chapman University
November 9, 2008 • 5:00 PM

Program

As the Sun Sleeps (2005)

Daphne Medina, violin • Lara Dill, viola • Scott Kawai, cello • Kevin Baker, bass

Tamer Edlebi, oboe • Charity Potter, bassoon • Mark Buchner, piano

Morningstar Quartet (2004)

Daphne Medina, violin • Maria Myrick, violin • Lara Dill, viola • Scott Kawai, cello

chemical reactions. (2006)

text and voice by Edgar Francisco Marquez

concluding statement from the 2006 documentary "A Nation of Beliefs"

Audience Directions: Please read through the text while the recording is being played. Do not try to follow along; simply read and let the interjections of the recording impress upon your subconscious

Occam's razor is a mathematical principle that states, "all things being equal, the simplest answer is always right". Now either an ethereal, omnipotent, all knowing and ubiquitous entity, all of a sudden decides to create a species to put in charge of a universe that's infinitely beyond their grasp, or we happen to happen. Which answer is simpler? At the beginning of this documentary we asked "Why are we here?" To that I ask, "Why find the answer if the question's wrong?" The reason why the question's wrong, is that "why are we here", assumes we're here for a reason. It's comforting to think we're something extraordinary, that wishful thinking will improve our situation. All you are, everything you've ever felt, everything you've ever seen, touched, heard, perceived or experienced, all of it, is just a chemical reaction in your brain. All we are, is a series of reactions, and these same reactions have convinced us that we'll never die if we believe in what the bible says, because the bible says so. Upon finding the beliefs of Americans, I believe we have a lack of beliefs. If we were really interested in finding out what to really believe as individuals, rather than most convenient, we'll get to the Promised Land a lot quicker. I promise that.

- Edgar Francisco Marquez

Program

Epic for Viola (2006)

*Katie Kroko, viola
and electronics*

Sparrow Village (2008)

*Dedicated to the memory of David Edgar Ponce
1985 ~ 2006*

"Sparrow Village, located in Roodepoort, South Africa, is a non-profit that provides a home for destitute terminally ill adults and children with AIDS, to live and die with dignity - and care for all AIDS patients with professional, non-judgmental nursing care, coupled with love and commitment."

-www.sparrow.org.za

*Morgan Hughes Beckett, oboe • Maria Myrick, violin • Scott Kawai, cello • Kevin Baker, bass
Craig Shields, percussion • Collin Martin, percussion • Mark Buchner, piano*

This recital is dedicated to the friends and family who have supported my writing, been patient as I slaved away to create music, and to those that have been an inspiration for my creativity. I'd like to thank Dr. Heim for never giving me the chance to fall behind, Dr. Naidoo for consistently playing devil's advocate in my lessons, and Dr. Holmes for sharing his wealth of knowledge and creating inspiration. Thank you to those of you who have performed in this recital; I greatly appreciate your effort, time and talent.

About the Artist

JON HARMON

Jon, a graduating senior in the Conservatory of Music, began his musical training at the age of 8 learning trumpet and singing in a boy's choir. He moved from trumpet to French Horn where he has studied under Brian Drake, Jenny Kim, and Russell Dicey. As a Horn player, Jon has performed at the Orange County Performing Arts Center as well as at venues in Italy, Austria and Australia.

In 2002 Jon spent a summer at the Berklee School of Music's "Berklee in LA" Summer program studying guitar. It was during this program that Jon's interest in composition began to blossom. He began his to study composition in 2004 and has studied privately with Shaun Naidoo, Jeffrey Holmes and Sean Heim. As an undergraduate composer he has been fortunate to have had a number of works recorded by members of the Chapman Chamber Orchestra and Chapman New Music Ensemble.

Jon's interest in conducting grew in 2004 while conducting his own works in student composition recitals. In 2006 he began studying conducting privately with Daniel Alfred Wachs and has also worked with John Koshak and Mark Laycock. In the fall of 2006 Jon conducted the premier of Evan Meier's *Two Songs of Stephen Crane* with the Chapman New Music Ensemble, under the direction of Sean Heim. In the summer of 2007, Jon attended the Conductor's Institute at Bard College Conservatory of Music under the direction of Harold Farberman. The Institute also provided the opportunity to work with Lawrence Golan and Apo Hsu. While at Bard, Jon had the privilege of working with composers Joan Tower and Tobias Picker. In the Fall of 2007, Jon worked with the California E.A.R Unit in a recording session of Tizoc Ceballos' *Broken Promises*. Jon has also served as Head Librarian to the University Orchestras and Administrative Assistant to Daniel Alfred Wachs, Director of Instrumental Studies. Jon is currently on staff of the Pacific Symphony and has worked in both Operations and Development.

Recipient of the Kirkpatrick Scholarship for Excellence in Music and the first recipient of the Conservatory of Music Award, Jon is a double major in Music Performance in Conducting and Music Composition and plans to pursue interests in arts management in his graduate studies.

