

## Experiments in Contemporary Music

June 3, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.  
Conrad Prebys Music Center  
Experimental Theater

I am **JAN FIDELIS**, a guitar player and composer with an interest in contemporary music as well as improvisation. As a performer I gain most of my influence from my roots as a metal musician. Aggression, technical virtuosity, and a penchant for abrasive noises all shape my musical character. I am a self-taught instrumentalist and am always open to new interpretations of performance. In this past year I have grown immensely as a musician and composer thanks to my honors composition advisors, Lei Liang and Rand Steiger. It is also this year that I am the recipient of the UC San Diego music department's Farrell Prize for the most outstanding graduating senior. As I move past my graduation from UC San Diego, I plan to continue composing, as well as forming a number of musical projects with like-minded musicians.

**ONEISHA LEE** is a 5th year music major with an emphasis in technology and a minor in psychology. She began her musical involvement on piano, voice, and flute before arriving at UC San Diego to focus on sound recording.

**DAISY MERCADO** is a Music Literature researcher who focuses primarily on the oral tradition of blues, the political and historical aspect of the classical, romantic and modern eras and as well as music of the 20th century. She studied with Joshua Weinstein, Jann Pasler, Jane Stevens and Stephen Lewis. In every musical piece there are many cultural, societal and political factors that influence its composition, and because of those factors she found interest in music literature. Daisy hopes to become an ethnomusicologist.

**NILOUFAR SHIRI** is a graduate of the Tehran Music School. She received her Diploma in Persian music performance, Kamancheh. Since 2004, she has been studying Kamancheh under the supervision of Maestro Saeid Farajpour. Since 2011, she has been studying and researching classical Persian music theory under the direction and monitoring of Dr. Hossein Omoumi, Professor of Music at the UC Irvine. Niloufar is the recipient of The Stewart Prize in 2016. Currently, she is pursuing her Bachelor in Music Composition from UC San Diego.

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Audience members are reminded to please silence all phones and noise generating devices before the performance. As a matter of courtesy and copyright law, no unauthorized recording or photographing is allowed in the hall.

UC San Diego is a non-smoking campus.

*Les Moutons de Panurge*

Frederic Rzewski

*The Witness*

Pauline Oliveros

*Tierkreis*

Karlheinz Stockhausen

*Composition No. 48*

Anthony Braxton

### Ensemble Personnel:

Hesam Abedini, vocals, hand percussion

Jinyi Duan, violin

Colin Cruz, vocals

Jan Krzystztof Fidelis, guitar

Rachel Huang, piano

Oneisha Lee, percussion, vocals

Zhijie Jiang, piano

Daisy Mae Mercado, percussion, vocals

Alan Ng, piano

Niloufar Shiri, Kamancheh

Mengchun Tao, piano

Prof. Stephanie Richards, Conductor

**HESAM ABEDINI** is a graduate of the Tehran Music School and founding member of the Sibarg Ensemble. He received his diploma in piano performance and composition and has also studied at the Yerevan Conservatory in Armenia for three years. Since 2011, he has been researching classical Persian music theory and studying the Persian vocal repertoire under the direction and supervision of Dr. Hossein Omoumi, Professor of Music at UC Irvine. Hesam is the recipient of Turetzky, Stout, and Chancellors' Awards at UC San Diego in music. Currently, he is pursuing his bachelor in Music Composition from UC San Diego where he studies with Dr. Lei Liang, Mark Dresser and Anthony Davis.

**COLIN CRUZ** is a fourth year music student undergrad with a focus in composition at UC San Diego. Originally born in Manhattan, NY, most of his musical background stems from his parents who were both musical theater performers. Colin has played leading roles in shows including *Footloose*, *Oklahoma*, and *George M. Cohen* and has performed with various vocal music groups including a nationally competitive gospel choir known as Urbane. He sang backup with rock band Foreigner when they passed through Pennsylvania. He has performed in choruses in professional productions of *Porgy and Bess*, *La Traviatta*, and *Carmen*. He also studied with renowned Broadway composers and pianists Mark Janas and Jimmy Roberts. Since starting college, Colin's focus has evolved from performing to composing music, although he still works as the music director and primary arranger of the on-campus all-male acapella group Frequency. His love and fascination with sound continues to grow with every new composition, whether it be vocal, orchestral, or even electronic. Creating beautiful and captivating sonic experiences is his passion and sharing them with the world is his dream.

Pianist **RACHEL HUANG** is a classically trained musician whose very first foray into contemporary music you will hear tonight. Huang spent the past academic year studying under distinguished professor Aleck Karis and recently gave her senior honors recital, a performance which won her the The Dr. Milton H. Saier, Sr. Memorial Award. She will spend the remainder of the spring quarter performing in various ensembles for UC San Diego composition juries and will begin preparing to graduate school auditions over the summer.

**ZHIJIE JIANG**, a music technology major student at UC San Diego. As a music major, he plays piano and sing. He was transferred from Palomar College. During the time he spends at Palomar College, he took many music courses such as music theory, music history, computer music, and private lessons. His main focus is computer music and studio production. After he transferred to UC San Diego he took more classes about music production and music software development. Also, he starts to get in touch with contemporary music and trying to combine contemporary with technology.

**ALAN NG** is a composer, who began his musical journey on the piano at the age of six. His interest in composition emerged during his youth while participating in the song writing process in local rock bands. Upon entering University, he was introduced to new ideas and perspectives that opened his mind to what music could be. He is excited at the prospects of finding new sounds and ways of self-expression! Currently, he is finishing his Bachelor of Arts in Music and Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology at UC San Diego.

**MENGCHUN TAO** is a big fan of classical music; piano performance has become the center and passion of her life. Mengchun is a UC San Diego music performance major and ICAM music minor student. She has been learning piano since her was 5 years old. She is interested in teaching music after her graduate, and She already have the experience of teaching two 9-year old kids playing the piano from January until now. She also loves jazz and improvisation; She have played keyboard in a jazz band in 2012 and 2013. Now She is taking piano lessons with Kyle Blair, and she finished her last piano recital in UC San Diego on May 24th.

**JINYI DUAN**, Jane started violin at the age of 8 under the instructions of private teachers. In high school, she engaged in many musical extra curricular activities including leadership in Ensembles as well as involvement in Los Alamos Symphonic Orchestra, Santa Fe Youth Symphony, Con Vivo! and New Mexico All State Orchestra. These opportunities allowed her to perform at local events as well as in Czech and Berlin. At UC San Diego, she declared a major in music performance under violin performance and participated in the UC San Diego Chamber Orchestra and La Jolla Symphony Orchestra. She mainly takes interest in post World War II music, in particular those by Kreisler and SaintSaens. However, she loves playing all types of music for the love of challenges.