



# Pulse!

## RSVP XI

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER PAVILION

TUESDAY, MAY 30 AT 8 PM, THURSDAY, JUNE 1 AT 8 PM

A CONCERT CELEBRATING ELECTRO-ACOUSTIC DIVERSITY AND COMPOSITIONAL RISK



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# RSVP

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The RSVP trans-media concert series evolved as a venue for performance arts to commingle with new technologies. It grew out of the Sound Design classes in Cal Poly's Music Department with the primary goals of generating a broad engaging experience for student creators and a lasting impression on audiences.

The first RSVP concert was held in 1993. In the years that followed, each concert has pushed the envelope, blending acoustic performance with new and mixed media, theatre, or dance. This year's production, "Pulse!" is the most theatrical of the series thus far, and the most diverse in musical styles employed. It at once takes its inspiration from medieval morality plays and a farcical blend of history and modern popular culture from situational comedy.

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## Pulse!

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Pulse is the first in a trilogy of productions exploring the primary elements of music. This year we look at rhythm, next year melody, and the next harmony. Beyond the obvious variety of musics and rhythmic traditions represented, the production seeks to illuminate more figurative and metaphoric meanings of rhythm. Couched in an entertaining, often humorous format, the show poses more philosophical questions. What are the really important rhythms in our lives? From our basic heartbeat to the up's and down's of every day, how is our sense of rhythm? Will we follow trendy patterns or will we pursue a deeper, more enduring meter? In essence, the production beckons reflection – to take your own pulse!

You are presented with multiple story lines – notably a recurring visit to the sanatorium and a chance to hear what the lifeguards above are discussing. Though the production borrows from history, none of those scenes portray actual historical events. We have no reason to believe Boethius was quite so lecherous, and surely Beethoven knew nothing of Wagner, let alone Russell! Similarly, we poke some fun at academia and the medical professions. No offense intended; it is all in good fun. And heaven knows where you would find lifeguards like the ones you will meet tonight!

You are also presented with a series of scenes, vignette-like, that reveal the dreams of the Patient. Suffice it to say that rarely does anything in the show, whether character, action, or dialogue carry only its surface meaning. A second thought in every case is worth it. Do not be surprised if you see a little of yourself in many of the characters.

Tonight's production urges you to venture beyond consumer to interpreter. Do not be afraid. Enjoy, but also dream.



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# Personnel

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**Antonio G. Barata**

*Artistic Director & Producer*

**AnneMarie Cordeiro**

*Assistant Director, Assistant Stage Manager*

**Chris Pasillas**

*Music Coordinator*

**Allen Peters**

*Sound Coordinator*

**Tim Dugan**

*Lighting Designer*

**Erich Meschkat**

*Business Coordinator*

**Steven Lee**

*Stage Manager*

**Mike Joiner, Michael April, Joshua Berg**

*Stage Hands*

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## Cast

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**Michael Annuzzi**

**Bryan Armstrong**

*Lifeguard Mikey*

*Auctioneer, Tribesman, Rescuer, Posse*

*Member, Monk*

**Antonio Barata**

**Steven Becraft**

**Yohanna Bartel**

**AnneMarie Cordeiro**

**Greg Correia**

**Stephanie Davies**

**Danielle Dutro**

**Daniel Ellis**

*Patient*

*Ibraïim, Beethoven, Tribesman, Monk*

*Lifeguard Uriella*

*Irish Dancer*

*Doctor Krankopf, Boethius*

*Lifeguard Rafaella*

*Lifeguard Gabriella*

*Musa, Don Jose, Tribesman, Posse*

*Member, Monk*

**Adrian Mardyks**

*Yusef, Prior (Head Monk), Tribesman,*

*Posse Member*

**James Martinez**

*Rock Drummer, Dental Patient, Tribesman,*

*Rescuer*

**Erich Meschkat**

**Lester Wilson**

**Dionne White**

*DJ Delux*

*Doctor Bonheur, Galileo*

*Nurse*

*Vocal Percussionists*

**Steven Becraft, AnneMarie Cordeiro,**

**Daniel Ellis, Mike Joiner**

*Auction Bidders*

**Christine Atiya, Julian Esposito,**

**Michael Gunther, John Morley,**

**Mia Paley-Williams, Bryan Pourtabib,**

**David Song, Viet Tran, Kevan Turner**



# Act I

**In the Dark** (text by Kahlil Gibran) — 1 — Armstrong, Mardyks

*Prompted to find commonality, we begin our trip of discovery into the rhythms of our lives.*

**At the Beachfront of Our Tale** — 2 — Annuzzi, Armstrong, Martinez

*The lifeguards are here to help us find our rhythm. Listen to what they say between the lines.*

**At the Sanatorium** — 3 — Ellis

*Who is to say what is real and what is dream? Let us look first at ourselves.*

**Musica Mundana: Galileo and Boethius** — 4 — Ellis, Pasillas

*What if these luminaries met? A brief history of heavenly bodies.*

**Musica Humana Tribalensis** — 5 — Mardyks

*Where was rhythm discovered - on a plain or some mountaintop, or deep inside?*

**Musica Instrumentalis Hiberniensis** — 6 — Martinez, White

*It could be any island, but it's the one in us all, where rhythm is made flesh.*

**At the Auction** — 7 — Annuzzi, Becraft, Martinez

*Our pulse gets faster. Rhythm goes to the highest bidder.*

**At the Oasis** — 8 — Ellis, Mardyks, Meschkat

*In the desert of our lives we find a rhythm to follow.*

**Katrina Finds Love** — 9 — Barata

*Amidst the rubble, the heart keeps beating*

**In Frances Densmore's Study** — 10 — Ellis, Mardyks

*No matter the era, the sex, the creed, the beat is heard.*

**Mikey is Commissioned** — 11 — Annuzzi

*Lifeguards do not just sunbathe. They work.*

**Rap-0-Rama, Part 1** — 12 — Meschkat / Armstrong, Becraft

*In every time there are those who would use rhythm.*



# Intermission

## Act III

**Life is Not A Beach** ————— **13** ————— Annuzzi, Armstrong

*The lifeguards make a good argument for practicing our rhythmic exercises.*

**The Sanatorium Revisited** ————— **14** ————— Ellis

*A pulse gone mad – the nightmare.*

**In Beethoven's Apartment** ————— **15** ————— Ellis, Pasillas

*The maestro expresses his opinion on music and its makers.*

**At Dentist's Office** ————— **16** ————— Becraft

*Listening to that kind of music is like getting your teeth pulled!*

**South of the Border** ————— **17** ————— Annuzzi, Martinez, White

*Amigo! Ven a la fiesta! Pardon Miguel, puedes bailar?*

**In Rhythms E'er Mysterious: There I Am** **18** ————— Barata / Pasillas

*The lifeguards tell us where we can find them, and where we can find our pulse.*

**Rock Solid** ————— **19** ————— Becraft, Martinez

*The big record deal...and the beat goes on...and on...and on...until...*

**In a Monastery** ————— **20** ————— Meschkat, Pasillas

*Sacramentality has no bounds when these monks get their groove on.*

**Rap-O-Rama, Part 2** ————— **21** ————— Meschkat / Armstrong, Becraft

*Bring it! Mikey finds DJ-Delux.*

**A Beautiful Day at the Beach** ————— **22** ————— Annuzzi, Armstrong

*All is well that ends well, ...but wait! This is only the beginning*

**On Last Visit to the Sanatorium** ————— **23** ————— Becraft

*Who really is the crazy one? A pulse is less than a heart monitor away.*

## The End