

ORACLES

RSVP IX



MUSIC
DEPARTMENT

a concert
celebrating
electro-acoustic

diversity and compositional risk

Tues, June 1 at 8pm &

Thurs, June 3 at 8pm

Performing Arts Center, Pavilion

RSVP

The RSVP trans-media 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 an 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, "Oracles," continues the push forward. For the first time RSVP includes virtual orchestral instrumentation. Paralleling the modeling and rendering of computer graphics, primitives in the form of digital samples were arranged and modeled into facsimiles of real orchestration. However, just like computer graphics, sometimes the realism is pushed to surrealism, and musical gestures that would be impossible for human performers are rendered, at times with comical or amazing results.

Oracles

What you are about to witness is neither concert, nor theatre. Though it blends these two performance arts, it is more closely related to *opera seria* and *opera buffa* of long ago – all with a high tech twist! What you will witness is a sequence of vignettes that form something of a performance riddle. Each character, sound, and vignette provides another clue to revealing the underlying meaning.

Although the *opera seria* scenes do follow events from the life of the famous 19th-century Carmelite nun, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, also known as the "Little Flower", it is not meant to be an historical documentary. Rather, her life and work become a vehicle for delivering a deeper message, one to which she was profoundly committed. On the other hand, each comical *opera buffa* scene (Intermezzo), set in a more contemporary time, reflects on skewed dedication to false ideals. A third element, the timeless Prophet-Narrator, focuses and refocuses the audience's attention on the profound underlying intentions.

The story follows the development of Thérèse from her simple hopeful vocation to an intense self-offering and dedication to change the world. She does this, not through courageous acts, but simple and unfaltering love. When she hears of a heinous criminal's unrepentant nature, she whole-heartedly devotes herself to lead him to conversion, not by direct action, but by growing closer to the source of her love. Gradually, change reaches into the criminal's heart, and in the end, both Thérèse and the criminal put their lives in the hands of love.

We invite you, then, to listen, watch, ponder, and muse – to solve the riddle!

Credits

Artistic Director, and Executive Producer
Associate Producer, Stage Manager
Assistant Producers

Lighting Designer
Light Operator
Sound Engineer
Second Engineer
Orchestration Coordinator
Instrument Realizations
Compositions

Costumes

Set Designer
Scenery/Props

Antonio G. Barata
Rachel Foote
Ian Clausen
Colin Dean
Tim Dugan
Chris Conley
Colin Dean
Nathaniel Martin
Joseph Kaplan
Rachel Foote
Arash Abolfazlian
Christopher Jon Andrion
Jesse D. Bennett
Colin Dean
Rachel Foote
Inger Hudson
Kelli Johannesen
Joseph Kaplan
Brian King
Nathaniel Martin
Jason Renick
Jameson Swanagon
Lindsey Kronmiller
Inger Hudson
Andrea Noon
Chad Gifford
Ian Clausen
Lindsey Kronmiller
Christopher Jon Andrion

Cast

Prophet-Narrator
Henri Le Chemin
Accomplice, Reporter, Jailer, Confessor
Thérèse (Terri)
Celine (Celie, Terri's sister)

Chorus: Kay
Carrie
Tomi
Ini

Blind Love

Angel

Antichorus:

Eve
Adam
Jowls
Nuclear Family: Father
Mother
Brother
Sister

Copy Shop Clerk

Devil

Pop Star

Bodyguard

Dancers

Antonio G. Barata
Robert Lawson
Colin Yamaoka
Rachael Beckner
Nicole Lyshorn
Valerie Laxson
Andrea Noon
Inger Hudson
Amanda Tredger
Jesús Saiz-Huedo
Jesse D. Bennett
Kelli Johannesen
Brian King
Ian Clausen
Joseph Kaplan
Lindsey Kronmiller
Christopher Jon Andrion
Kelli Johannesen
Arash Abolfazlian
Jason Renick
Kelli Johannesen
Chad Gifford
Kristin Brenner
April Souther

ACT I

- Prologue **Narrator: "A riddle?"**
The Prophet urges us to look beyond the characters to their purpose.
- Scene 1 **"Let them Come"** *J Kaplan - composer*
A terrible crime has been committed. Henri Le Chemin and his accomplice react in very different ways.
- Scene 2 **Paradise Revisited** *B King - composer*
A retelling of the classic story of Adam and Eve.
- Scene 3 **"The Sound of My Heart"** *I Hudson, C Dean - composers*
Terri and Celie share their simple love.
- Scene 4 **"The Time has Come"** *I Hudson, J Saiz-Huedo, K Johannesen*
Chorus gives birth to Love.
- Scene 5 **"I See the Procession"** *R Foote - composer*
Terri, with help from Celie, matures in her love.
- Scene 6 **"The Famous Le Chemin"** *J Kaplan - composer*
In jail, Henri shows his hardened, unrepentant heart.
- Scene 7 **Narrator's First Lament: "My son, my son"**
The Prophet laments his son's life, yet promises to make him new.
- Scene 8 **"In Birth"** *C Dean, J Saiz-Huedo, J Swanagon - composers*
Chorus laments how her child is not understood.
- Scene 9 **A New Idol – TV** *A Abolfazlian, C Andrion, J Bennett - composers*
A family is hypnotized by the sights and sounds of television.
- Scene 10 **"Illumination Unbidden"** *R Foote - composer*
Terri finds a cause, committing herself to helping Henri.

L'ENTRACTE

ACT II

- Prologue **Narrator: "If you were to offer everything"**
The Prophet redoubles his effort to draw the audience to new awareness.
- Scene 1 **"Cold Walls"** *J Swanagon, K Johannesen - composers*
The Jailer compares and contrasts his life with Henri's.
- Scene 2 **If You Could Copy Anything...Any Thing?** *J Renick - composer*
Retelling of the classic story of selling one's soul for personal gain.
- Scene 3 **"Now is the Time"** *K Johannesen - composer*
Chorus urges Henri that now is the time to change.
- Scene 4 **"What is this Sound?"** *C Dean, J Saiz-Huedo, I Hudson - composers*
Terri is finally united in purpose with her Love.
- Scene 5 **"If This is Your Song"** *I Hudson, R Foote - composers*
Celie sings of an earlier time, of what her sister has become, and encourages Terri.
- Scene 6 **"My Vocation is Love"** *I Hudson - composer*
A mature Terri professes her commitment to Love.
- Scene 7 **Narrator's Second Lament: "My daughter, my daughter"**
The Prophet sees what his daughter's love will ultimately require.
- Scene 8 **"You Always Go Too Far"** *J Kaplan - composer*
A jailmate presses Henri to think about what he has missed.
- Scene 9 **"Rejection"** *J Saiz-Huedo - composer*
Love is despised and discarded.
- Scene 10 **Yet Another to Idolize – The Diva** *C Dean, N Martin - composers*
In a polemic against Love, the pop star rules the moment.
- Scene 11 **"The Hour is Late"** *J Kaplan, R Foote - composers*
Henri meets his concurrent fates, life and death.
- Scene 12 **"I Am Entering Into Life"** *I Hudson - composer*
Even deathly ill, Terri maintains her focus on Love.
- Epilogue **Narrator's Final Discourse: "Say it's love."**

LA FIN



Thanks

Michele Abba

Lewis Abra

Christopher Andrion

Michael Andrion

Katherine Arthur

Greg Barata

Chris Conley

Tom Davies

Colin Dean

Tim Dugan

Kathy Dugan

Lindsay Foff

Rachel Foote

Chad Gifford

John, Chris, Jennie

Shannon Jerger

Josef Kasperovich

Kathy, Carlos, Raquel

Fr. Donald Kinney, O.C.D.

Jacalyn Kreitzer

Doug Lee

Fr. Jan Lundberg, O.C. D.

Alyson McLamore

All the Moms and Dads

Tom McPherron

Theresa Migler

Roger Phillip

Ann Ramsey

Druci Reese

Ben Reveley

Brian Reames

Jared Rohdes

Al Schnupp

Nathan Smith

Jameson Swanagon

Eli Zabala

Music Department Faculty

Free Ride

Arroyo Grande Bakery

Food 4 Less

Trader Joe's

Upper Crust Biscotti

All the Singing Cast

All our supportive families

The Deaconate Family

The O.C.D.S. Family

MU 412 Colleagues, I'm proud of ya!

OAMDG



An RSVP Production

