

2021 John Donald Robb Composers' Symposium - Tuesday, May 3 - 7:30 PM

Matthew Lind - *Excitations and Meditations*

Joshua Aguiar - *Shipwrecked*

Shipwrecked is a short programmatic composition for wind quartet. It is a musical setting of a text-based fantasy tale, conceived in collaboration with other players of a tabletop role playing game. Over the course of several weeks, the players and the narrator worked together to tell this snippet of the story using dice to dictate chance-based actions. The main character, a barbarian warrior named Glee, awakens on an island after a shipwreck and attempts to gather food, fend off gulls, avoid snakes and generally just survive while lost in this new, alien, location.

Don Lopez - *Euphrates*

The challenge for this piece was to write a piece unlike any of the others I have written. I started the composition process by sitting down at the piano and experimenting with different harmonies. I wanted to write something experimental, but staying true to traditional tonality. Coincidentally, my ideas fell in line with techniques and tonalities from the impressionism era, and I took a lot of inspiration from Ravel, Debussy, and Rachmaninoff for this piece. Once I knew how I wanted the piece to sound, I made recordings of myself playing it. After I had a complete recording, the notation process began, which was the most experimental part of the piece. I notated it in the way that I could make the melody the most clear, and I purposely left it as differently interpretable as possible.

Gabriel Gonzales - *Conflagrations*

The video source material for *Conflagrations* was gathered during a two-year period. The music video features a mixture of staged and documentary footage. Most of the video was filmed in June of 2020 at an Albuquerque Black Lives Matter protest march in memory of George Floyd. The video also contains the artist's depiction of the *Mitochondrial* eve, which was originally created as a standalone commission for the Austin-based non-profit organization Gender Unbound's exhibition, entitled *Home*.

Christopher Orphal - *Embrace, Again, and Tremble*

I. Nocturne

Doug Falk - *Heterogeneity*

Sourena Sefati - *String Trio (The Fall)*

The string trio is based on the Persian traditional mode or *dastgah* (Homayoon) employing some extended techniques and post-tonal elements.

Ben Work - *An Orchid Tree*

New ways to play the double bass.