



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

# University of North Texas College of Music

Senior Recital | Tuesday, March 7, 2023 | 7:30 pm | Winspear Hall

## PJ Mooney, composer

Requiem for a Poisoned Earth (2023) .....PJ Mooney (b. 2000)  
Text: Katherine E. Ragodos/Patrick Gillaspie

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- II. Luxit, et Defluxit
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### Musicians

Conductor: J. Christine Le • Chorusmaster: Kenneth Sieloff  
Soloists: Daniel Bubeck, Kara Libby, Myles Pinder, Andrea Pinder  
Featured Ensemble: Pyxis Saxophone Quartet  
Ronald Bonifatibus - Soprano • Max Windsor - Alto  
Devon Isaac - Tenor • Beige Cowell - Baritone  
Piano: Daeun Kim

*Five hundred forty-ninth program of the 2022–2023 season  
Photography and videography are prohibited*

## Introduction

### Luxit, et Defluxit

Luxit, et defluxit terra,  
The earth mourneth and  
languisheth, fadeth away.  
The proud people of the earth,  
they have changed the ordinance.

They have broken the everlasting  
covenant. The proud people of the  
earth are weakened.

Luxit, et defluxit terra

### Et Infirmata Est

Luxit, et defluxit terra  
et infirmata est!

Better living through Chemistry.  
Bettering the world. A promise:  
better things.

### The Dry Run

Down the winding mossy mountains,  
Past the sullied, sooted mines,  
Over snowcapped and footed hills,  
The river bides its time.

The rain and sun and warblers  
Join in wistful, warring dance.  
The river meets them fondly  
In a dizzy hypnotic trance.

They feast and play and gather as  
The river races down  
The warblers coo a mourning song  
And the farmers drag their plows.

The company sits atop the hills  
Its roots dug far and deep  
The town and all its people  
Are ensnared as they lie asleep.

The river joins the warblers  
In their tender, aching tune,  
They choke and fall and flutter  
Now against the company fumes.

Hands and wings and mouths  
Outstretched in great petition.  
The cooing of the warbler  
Calls for great sedition.

They eat of him the poisoned flesh  
And drink of him his son  
Their blood and jointed bodies  
Join together here as one.

The warblers and the rivers now have  
quieted their tongues  
Destitute and crying, he's squeezing at  
their lungs

Feathers damp and bloodied lay  
drowned there in the drudge  
Seeping, foaming, gutted; both  
lamented by the sun

## Introduction

### Luxit, et Defluxit

The earth mourneth and fadeth away,

### Et Infirmata Est

The earth mourneth and fadeth away,  
the world is inficted.

Here, we lay dying at the foot of  
the dry run.

**Requiem Aeternam**

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine:  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

A hymn, O God, becometh Thee  
And a vow shall be paid in Jerusalem

Exaudi orationem meam

All flesh shall come before you.

**On the Night I Knew I Loved You**

On the night I knew I loved you  
The sun had fell  
Just right.  
Remember how the birds had flocked?  
How the moon was just so bright?

Even in that moment,  
Brimming with contentment,  
I could never have imagined  
The breadth of a love without  
resentment.

On the night I knew I loved you:  
The night I knew that you were mine.

For you I would move mountains  
And I'd carry all the skies.  
I'd create the world just to love you  
Just to hold you one more time.

In every possible reality  
I know that life would lead me to you.  
I can feel it in the way you hold me  
In the way each day feels brand new.

On the night I knew I loved you,  
I heard the angels sing.  
They laughed and frolicked  
And sauntered just to see the love  
we'd lead.

I would roam the world endlessly  
To find your outstretched hand.  
My darling, there is nothing more I want  
Than to live the life we've planned.

I want a house by the company  
And three little girls  
I want to hold you 'til my lungs give out  
I want to give you the whole world

**Kyrie, eleison!**

Kyrie, eleison!  
Christe, eleison!  
Kyrie, eleison!

Domine: dona eis.  
And let perpetual light shine.  
All flesh shall come before you.

**Requiem Aeternam**

Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord  
And let perpetual light shine upon them

Hear my prayer

**Kyrie, eleison!**

Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, grant them

### **Better Things!**

Joined under a rising sun,  
We are foremen of innovation:  
monuments of industry  
that's been building for generations  
Towards our modern promise.

Better thing for a better world.  
Living through chemistry.

A world of possibilities,  
We'll make your life wonderful  
Glorious with ease  
Our gift to change the world

There are whispers in the air tonight  
of innovation.  
Just think, the profit could be endless,  
filling our pockets forever,  
From our own inspiration

The everlasting chemical, progress  
through chemistry.

Look to the workers now, see them  
bleeding when they cough.  
(Better things for a better world)  
The everlasting chemical seeping now  
into their veins. Living through chemistry

Something undeniable (better things)  
we'll transform the universe (better  
things - better living)  
Living through chemistry!

Skies are darkened  
Receptors weakened  
Rivers still flowing  
Cancers are growing

Lungs depleting  
People are crying  
Bleeding, begging, dying from  
living through chemistry!  
This is our promise to the world.

### **Better Living!**

#### **Living Through Chemistry!**

The skies, the earth, and all of heaven are  
screaming for us to stop.  
All the blood of the earth is poisoned.  
Yet there is nothing left to do.  
Nothing can be undone.  
We must find one for the world to reverse  
and save us from judgment!

The lady, our pioneer!  
I will create you in the image of my  
company. And you will live through  
chemistry!  
I live through chemistry.

We have no other choices.  
We've had our last chance.  
So join us in our dance.

Luxit, et defluxit et infirmata est.

I shall be in everlasting remembrance  
(safe from harm).  
I shall not fear the evil reports!

And when they ask me of the promise  
to the world, I shall say: Absolve me!

Luxit, et defluxit et infirmata est.

**Absolve Me!**

Their bodies growing weaker  
Under the pressure of our thumbs.  
Cancer sprouting from our factories.  
What will we say when judgment comes?

Absolve me,  
from every chain of sin.  
Absolve Domine!  
Save us from every chain of sin and let  
perpetual light shine!

And by the help of Thy grace may they  
be enabled to escape the avenging  
judgment!

Absolve Me!

**Come, Close Your Eyes**

Come with me.

Come, close your eyes  
Let your thoughts succumb to lullabies  
Drink from these dark waters  
Where truth drowns by slaughter

Come, close your eyes  
Come with the riptide  
Keep troubles at bay  
Drink these dark waters  
For you once were a drifter  
How could you stray?

Come, tread the surface  
Keep pushing ahead  
Absolve me. Salva me.  
Absolve me, Domine!

**Ignore Thoughts that Transfix You**

Take your worries to the shore.  
Lay them on the shimmery sand.

Ignore thoughts that transfix you.  
Please take my hand.

I am brimming with doubt,  
Unsure of my place;  
I don't know what else to do.  
I have no other choices to make!

Let me into your life.  
Let me soothe all of your fears.  
Please, take my hand.  
And let me dry your tears.

**Absolve Me!**

Absolve me

Absolve, Oh Lord,

Absolve me.

Absolve me. Save me.  
Absolve me, oh Lord!

Better things, better things, living through  
chemistry!  
(Kyrie!)

Have mercy!

And I will lend you my strength.  
Let me give you the world.  
Can I stay by your side?  
Can I stay for a while?

I will give you my trust.  
I will give you my pride.  
I will give you my life!

### **Morph with the Waste**

Of this we implore you  
Come, join the current  
Beneath stones secrets lie  
A world full of value  
Who would pass by?

Come, and you will:  
Morph with the waste  
Of this you've been laced  
Flow, sweet surfactants  
And begin your deadly interaction

Oh, come with me!

### **Confutatis**

Confutatis maledictis  
Flammis acribus addictis,  
Voca me cum benedictus.

Toxicum!  
Save me!  
Toxicum perpetua!

Et infirmata est!  
Join us!

And you cannot survive without us.  
Join us now and morph with our waste.

For you cannot survive without us,  
And we cannot survive without you!

### **Dies Irae**

Dies irae, dies illa  
Solvat saeculum in favilla,  
Teste David cum Sibylla.

And now the earth, the skies, heavens  
are screaming for you to stop  
All the blood of the earth  
Is tainted—  
Everyone, every drop.

### **Tuba Mirum**

The trumpet scatters its awful sound!

It summons all before the grave.  
It summons me before the grave.

I am inflicted by the better things of this  
world.  
I want to hold you till my lungs give out.  
No!  
Oh, my darling, I was so loved by you.

### **Confutatis**

When the damned are confounded  
and consigned to keen flames,  
call me with the blessed.

Poisoned!  
Save me!  
Poisoned forevermore!

And we are inflicted!

### **Dies Irae**

This day, this day of wrath  
shall consume the world in ashes,  
as foretold by David and the Sibyl.

### **Creation Awakens**

Death and nature shall be stunned  
When all of creation awakens! Arise!  
Awaken!

Kyrie!

Have mercy!

### **Sorrow Holds Us All like Children**

On the night that you were stolen  
my faith and future began to break.  
My bones and spirit and body  
Lurched to join you in your wake.

Sorrow holds us all like children  
And folds our fists into a rage.  
The earth, the town, and its people  
Cry freedom from the company's cage.

My reflection's in the wreckage  
And my palms are cupping his blood

We join here in a mourning song  
And wish for you to join us too.  
May we unbound the earth from shackles  
And work to find the world anew

Let his soul guide your eyes to change.  
Let our love guide your heart to fight...  
and you'll take flight!

### **May the Angels Lead you to Paradise**

May the angels lead you to paradise...

### **Libera Me**

Libera me, Domine, de morte æterna, in  
die illa tremenda:  
Quando cœli movendi sunt et terra:

Libera  
Dum veneris iudicare sæculum  
per ignem.

Dread and trembling hath laid hold  
on me  
until the trial's at hand and wrath to  
come: when the heavens and earth  
shall be shaken-dreaden-trembling!

Dies illa, dies iræ, calamitatis...  
Kyrie

Dum veneris iudicare sæculum per  
ignem.

Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine:  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Libera me!  
Et lux perpetua luceat eis.  
Amen.

Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death,  
on that awful day:  
When the heavens and earth shall be  
shaken:  
Deliver me.  
When thou shall come to judge the  
world by fire.

O that day, that day of wrath, misery...  
Have mercy!

When thou shall come to judge the world  
by fire.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Deliver me, O Lord!  
And let perpetual light shine.  
Amen.

## ORCHESTRA

### Violin

Mia Caliri  
Pablo Cerdas  
Ela Curb  
DeLane Marsh  
Ellie McNally  
Johnathan Ramos  
Joseph Reding\*\*  
Sofia Vega  
Camryn Cox  
Seth Castellano  
Alyssa Hall  
Lucas Gabriel

### Viola

Elizabeth Olson  
Sarah Shultz\*\*  
Kejuan Thompson  
Eleanor Williams  
Kathy Crabtree

### Cello

Deohanz Buenafe\*\*  
Nathan Davis  
Ethan Gaskin  
Olivia Graber  
Addison Surret

### Jaya Waugh

### Double Bass

Bryan Dawn  
Savannah Hilterbrandt\*\*  
Matt Luse  
Catherine Willis

### Flute

Summer Bruner  
Kiana Kawahara\*\*

### Oboe

Madison Church\*\*  
Abigail Espinosa

### Clarinet

Anna Ferrari  
Anthony Orr\*\*

### Bassoon

Aaron Lukenbill\*\*  
Georgia Clement

### Baritone Saxophone

Beige Cowell

### Horn

Mary Haddix-Hermens  
Zachary McKinnon  
Steven Phan\*\*  
Ellyse Sanchez

### Trumpet

Aleyna Ashenfarb  
Ben Gerkins\*\*

### Trombone

Connor Altagen\*\*

### Tuba

Micheal Moxley

### Timpani

Jacob Fullinwider\*\*

### Auxiliary Percussion

Raina Liao  
Sophia Lo  
Wyatt Reed

### Piano

Daeun Kim

## CHORUS

### Soprano

Abigail Cockrum  
Julia Amundson  
Taylor Fenner  
Marissa Guerrero  
Danielle Harrington  
Elizabeth King  
Maryn West  
Anna Poole

Anna Schmelter\*\*  
Savanna Singleton  
Katelyn Spivey  
Hannah Watkins

### Alto

Kara Bonorden  
Emma Cockerham  
Trinity Del Regno  
Pebbles Guest  
Meredith Hinshaw  
Kassidy Montán  
Brianna Nelson  
Chloe Spellmann  
Ruth Sytsma  
Emily Tucker  
Gillian Boley  
Lenny Vasilliades

### Tenor

Caleb Aguirre  
Samuel Benavidez  
Philip Callaway  
Gavin Godbey  
Benjamin Johnson  
Craig Smith  
Nate Taylor  
Jade Wesley  
Jack Forden  
Kianna Montanez  
Julian Yanas

### Bass

Seth Bazan  
Joe Boatwright  
Hawkins Burns  
Brian De Stefano  
Xavier Garcia  
Cameron Purcell  
Zachary Rohwer  
Max Rubenstein-Miller  
Avery Sanderlin  
Jesse Spencer  
Finn Morton

*Requiem for a Poisoned Earth* aims to educate audiences on the dangers of hazardous PFAS "forever chemicals." Developed in the early 1950s, these chemicals have been released, buried, and dumped into almost every ecosystem. According to the Environmental Working Group, over 99% of all life is poisoned by PFAS, which is one of 80,000 unregulated chemicals currently in U.S. production. The work follows characters THE HUSBAND and THE WIFE, as they navigate the environmental injustices occurring around them, eventually being poisoned by THE COMPANY and THE LADY. The text is a combination of traditional Requiem Latin as well as newly commissioned English texts from lyricists Katherine E. Ragodos and Patrick Gillaspie.