



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

University of North Texas
College of Music

Composition Recital | Monday, February 12, 2024 | 8:00 pm | MEIT (M1001)

**SPECTRUM: A Performance of New Works
by North Texas Composers**

Reflect (2023) Kahan Taraporevala (b. 1999)
Pete Clagett, trumpet with effects • Kahan Taraporevala, piano
David Huff, electronics

Shadow Emerges at the End
of Endless Darkness (2023) Pak Hei (Alvin) Leung (b. 1997)
Pak Hei (Alvin) Leung, piano • live electronics

Death is a Dialogue (2020; rev. 2024) PJ Mooney (b. 2000)
Brian De Stefano, bass voice

VoiceMemos (2024) Beige Cowell (b. 2001)
dedicated to Samantha Taylor Cowell
fixed media (audio and video)

Quantum Nocturne (2024) Benjamin Shirey (b. 1985)
fixed audio (electroacoustic)

unapologetic (2023) Benjamin Damann (b. 1994)
Charlotte MacDonald, bass clarinet • Sophia Lo, marimba

Reflect

Reflect is a movement from a larger work of mine titled *Poirot in the Sky*. It is an exploration of the human conscience through the lens of self-actualization. This piece focuses in on the concepts of self-esteem and connection. This movement, *Reflect*, invites the listener to turn inward and enter a state of meditation and awareness of oneself while listening.

Death is a Dialogue

Emily Dickinson's "Death is a Dialogue" conveys an interaction between the "Spirit" and "Death." Throughout, Death and the Spirit discuss the ending occurrences of life; Death argues that one's existence will simply dissolve away, while the Spirit reveals a hopeful life after passing. These intertwining elements of relief and hope against manipulation and argument are evident with the various vocal colors and registral placement distinctions for each character. Throughout the piece, the Spirit performs lyrical, forward, and open phrases, while Death performs with broken, backwards, and sonically muffled tones.

VoiceMemos

"Voice memos taken on my phone from June 6, 2018 up to January 16, 2024, nearly 6 years span.

Mental Health Resources:

Local/Denton--

UNT Counseling and Testing: 940-565-2741

Denton County MHMR 24/7 crisis line: 1-800-762-0157

Dallas Suicide and Crisis Center: 214-828-1000

Nationwide--

Emergency Services: 911

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: Call or text 988

Trevor Project 24/7 line for LGBTQ+: 1-866-488-7386 or text: 678-678

Blackline for BIPOC and BIPOC LGBTQ+: 1-800-604-5481

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI): 1-800-950-6264"

Quantum Nocturne

Quantum Nocturne was inspired by both the mysterious world of quantum physics and the introspective serenity of the night. The piece reflects on the paradoxical nature of subatomic particles and the abstract nature of dreams. Its auditory landscape oscillates from tranquil calmness to a vibrant, pulsating intensity, mirroring the profound mysteries of the quantum universe both sleeping and awake.