

DANIEL ZAJICEK

Composer

DOCTORAL RECITAL

Sunday, March 20, 2011

5:30 p.m.

Hirsch Orchestra Rehearsal Hall

Celebrating *35* 1975-2010
Years

THE SHEPHERD SCHOOL OF MUSIC RICE UNIVERSITY

PROGRAM

Introduction to a framed thinking process

Daniel Zajicek, speaker

Portrait • TV • Man (2010)

An opera in one act

Daniel Zajicek, music

Sebastian Zaberca, libretto

Characters in order of appearance:

TV [a television announcer]

Portrait [an Italian Duke] David Smith

Businessman [a Wallstreet broker]

Stage Hand John Grimmatt

Natalie Zeldin, flute

Natalie Parker, clarinet

Kevin Judge, bassoon

David Smith, baritone

Andrew Schneider, piano

Karl Blench, conductor

Hsiao-Lan Wang, sound and video operator

Stephen Bachicha, puppeteer

John Grimmatt, director

Ayn Morgan, set design

Chapman Welch, sound engineer

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Doctor of Musical Arts.

Mr. Zajicek is a student of Arthur Gottschalk.

SYNOPSIS

Place of Action: A modern city

Time: 21st century

INTRODUCTION

Noises emanate from a busy street; a staged drama is situated before an audience. The TV runs down the headlines, and, as if afraid of silence, the Portrait begins to sing. Prompted by a stagehand, the TV becomes aware of the audience and beckons them, while the Portrait laments his counterfeit existence. The TV's yearning united with the Portrait's lament and they sing together. The outside storm intrudes.

PART I

United in the same space, the TV and Portrait decide to make conversation. Neither is truly happy, yet they believe their mode of existence is better than the other's. Eventually, they sing a duet in which they argue over which of their forms is more real. The Businessman enters wet from the rain.

PART II

The TV relays the current state of the market. Depressed, the Businessman sings. A loud phone call awakes the sleeping Portrait. Henceforth, the Portrait becomes obsessed with the likeness of the Businessman to his brother Mario. Once again the TV reads through the headlines, there is another phone call, and the Portrait convinces the TV of the shared likeness of the Businessman to his brother. Yet all the while, nobody is watching them, so they sing about it in a brief trio. Distraught, the Businessman fixes a drink and sits on the sofa.

CODA

The TV dreams of life outside his box.