



Christopher Harris, percussion

Menaticde (2018)	John Psthas (b. 1966)
Canaries (1966)	Elliot Carter (1908-2012)
Snowglobe (2020)	Benjamin Holmes (b. 1991)
Madera Viento Y Metal (2017)	Alejandro Viñao (b. 1951)

BRIEF INTERMISSION

Music for the Small Hours (2023)	Emma O'Halloran (b. 1985)
Variations on Japanese Children's Songs (1982)	Keiko Abe (b. 1937)
Rebonds B (1989)	Iannis Xenakis (1922-2001)
The Endings of Things from a Distance (2018)	Matt Curlee (b. 1976)

*This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of Master of Music in Performance.
Christopher Harris is a student of Jordan Shippy.*

PROGRAM NOTES

Christopher Harris – April 28, 2023

John Psathas' *Mentacide* is a snare drum solo accompanied by tape. Relative to *Mentacide*, *Menticide* by definition is the systematic effort to undermine and destroy a person's values and beliefs. Within the piece, text is included within the tape. The text is as follows:

Mentacide
An erasure of historical memory
A deadening form of historical and social
Amnesia has taken over
Extreme violence and inequality are normalized
The marginalized are considered entirely
Disposable
Why
The swindle of fulfillment

Canaries is a timpani solo within the group of solos (Eight Pieces for Four Timpani written by Elliot Carter. Carter is a Prolific American composer and was well known for writing his music to different types of literature. This piece has imported the theme from the "wild men" of the Canary Islands, which is in 6/8 with dotted rhythmic fragments. One of Carter's main compositional styles in this piece is modulation.

Snowglobe is a vibraphone solo written by Benjamin Holmes. Holmes drew inspiration from wind-up snow globes and music boxes in this piece. With the piece, there is a dense rhythmic underpinning with a long flowing melody over the top.

Madera Viento y Metal (Wood, Wind, and Metal) is a rhythmically, harmonically, and acoustically fascinating piece. Written by the Argentinian composer Alejandro Viñao, the piece has many layers of complexity as Viñao loves to use the tonal relationship of 7ths and octaves as a harmonic framework against the different variations of electronic soundscapes to create a new style of marimba literature.

Music for The Small Hours by Emma O'Halloran is a duet that was commissioned through the New Works Project. Both Jordan Shippy and Chris Harris are a part of this consortium that just released music recently this spring from Emma O'Hollaron. Emma O'Holloarn is an Irish Composer who is currently at the top of her respective field(s) including percussion, in which she most recently has written for pieces that add reverb to acoustically incapable instruments.

Variations on Japanese Children's Songs by Keiko Abe is a marimba solo based on a Japanese Folk Song. Keiko Abe founded the 5-octave marimba and has been writing and teaching for years. She is the premier female marimbist in the percussion field.

Rebonds B by Iannis Xenakis is a multi-percussion solo with a lot of rhythmic flares. Iannis Xenakis is Greek Composer who has written many different prolific percussion pieces including *Okho*, *Rebonds A and B*, *Psappa*, and many more.

The Ending of Things from a Distance by Matt Curlee is a haunting and interesting timbral work based on a poem by Wendy Eisenberg. The poem is as follows:

To look at the statistics and decide
whether article "an" is gendered,
To name one before another
The amines of sleet looked at the icicles
like how dogs look in a mirror
hematopoietically, in millimeters. Does
a spoon, denied its place at the table,
hunch cave or vex? I look
at the lay of the land and "hmm" to myself,
like two scientists in love, deciding
whether to get married, one to another,
knowing how so often it ends, questioning
the motivations, creating, periodically, a curse
that even scientist can believe in