



# DEGREE RECITAL

University of Victoria – School of Music

## Graduating Composition Recital

Ryan Hemphill, Alexander Simon, Liam Gibson

15 March, 2015, 20:00  
 Phillip T. Young Recital Hall, MacLaurin Building  
 Free admission

### PROGRAM

#### XXXVI Machine

Ryan Hemphill (b.1988)

#### 外伝

Alexander Simon (b.1986)

#### nothing is more likely

Liam Gibson (b.1990)

#### *I – Moderato Sostenuto*

#### *II – Allegro*

#### *III – Adagio*

#### *IV – Moderato*

*Ryan Hemphill is from the class of Professor Christopher Butterfield  
 Alexander Simon and Liam Gibson are from the class of Dr. John Celona*

*This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
 for the Master of Music (Composition) program  
 and the Bachelor of Music (Composition) program.*

# XXXVI Machine

Ryan Hemphill

Justin Boechler, conductor  
Nathan Friedman, clarinet  
Emily McDermid, trumpet  
William Exner, percussion  
Liam Gibson, piano  
Dave Riedstra, double bass

**Upcoming:  
Graduating Composition Concert II  
Sunday 22 March, 2015  
8PM, Phillip T. Young Hall, School of Music  
University of Victoria**

**featuring works by  
Dave Riedstra  
Maria Eduarda Martins  
Zulfikar Nathoo**



**University  
of Victoria**  
School of  
Music

*This piece is inspired by the unintended voices of machinery and electronics that sing above the soundscapes of daily life—from humming street lamps to squeaky ventilation fans. Their music is some of the most beautiful and surprising I have experienced.*

*Thanks to Steeve Bjornson and Chris Lindsay for their assistance.*

*Please turn off all electronic devices prior to the concert.  
No recording devices of any kind may be used during the performances.*

## nothing is more likely

Liam Gibson

Evan Hesketh, conductor

Aliayta Foon-Dancoes, violin

Thomas Bauer, flute

Adam Jasienuk, alto saxophone

Allyssa Haigh, vibraphone

Nolan Krell, electric guitar

Thomas Nicholson, piano

Dave Riedstra, double bass

Keenan Mittag-Degala, percussion

*In everyday speech, 'nothing is more likely' denotes the high probability of a particular possibility. However, without context the meaning becomes ambiguous, perhaps implying that nothingness itself is more probable. This could refer to any number of things, including the relationship between the title of a piece of music and the actual music itself.*

*Liam Gibson is from the composition class of John Celona. He has also studied composition with Christopher Butterfield and Dániel Péter Biro, and piano with Eva Solar-Kinderman.*

## 外伝

Alexander Simon

### *Dramatis personae:*

Bailey Finley, alto flute – *the child*

Nathan Friedman, clarinet/bass clarinet in Bb – *the boy*

Matthew Robertson, bassoon – *the girl*

### *Chorus:*

Dominic Thibault, clarinet in Bb

Zach Smith, tenor saxophone

Justin Malchow, horn

Zoe McLaren, bass trombone

Allyssa Haigh, percussion

Tristan Holleufer, percussion

Alexander Simon, conductor

*Visuals consultant*, Dani Kohorst

*Live painting* by Dani Kohorst & Ben Eastabrook

*Poster design* by Melissa Coughlin

[melissacoughlinillustration.tumblr.com](http://melissacoughlinillustration.tumblr.com)

*Artistic co-ordinator*, Alexander Simon

[soundcloud.com/trakk00](https://soundcloud.com/trakk00)

[youtube.com/trakk00](https://youtube.com/trakk00)

*I would like to thank the following people:*

*My performers and artistic collaborators for being a part of this project and helping me to see it come to life*

*My supervisor, John Celona, and committee members Michelle Fillion and Christopher Butterfield, for their involvement during my two years at the University of Victoria*

*My colleagues in the composition programme, and all musicians at the school who have either been a part of my music, or who have crossed paths with me in one way or another*

*My friends and family for holding down the cheerleading section for so many years Allana Lindgren, David Roland and Gordon Mumma for their time and interest in my project*

*Mom, for her endless love most beautiful*

外伝 — libretto  
by Alexander Simon

*Scene I*  
A forest

*Scene II*  
A child enters the woods, as if lost. The child is very old.  
The child has lost someone. The child is looking for someone.

Everything the child touches changes. Plants wither and die in a breath; fallen limbs rise up as if new. The child opens a path long hidden and buried beneath Time; the child walks along a road not yet discovered.

Walking forward reveals a path the child will never know; a glance backwards shows what was remembered, but nothing is the same.

*Scene III*  
A forest

*Scene IV*  
The boy strides through the gate, defeated.

He has knowingly left someone behind; he will search for this person in places he cannot be.  
The boy carefully examines his surroundings, evaluating everything.  
He speaks in a curious language, alternately familiar and unfamiliar.

*Scene V*  
The two meet.

*Scene VI*  
A distortion in the space-time appears. Fate deposits a bundle cloaked in the night then vanishes to leave this anomaly to its own devices.

The bundle thrashes & flails against Fate. It is too late. Time will go on, but there will never be Time.  
She has lost someone forever. She will spend all of eternity in vain.

*Scene VII*  
An encounter.

Looking for a way home.

*Scene VIII*  
The child attempts to alter the flow of Time. A Gate opens.

*Scene IX*  
The girl attempts a summoning. A Gate opens.

*Scene X*  
A dance of runes. A Gate opens.

*Scene XI*  
The child walks towards the light.

The boy closes the Gate.

The girl falls into the Void without glancing back.

*Scene XII*  
A forest