

Chuanyuan Liu

Mini Grant Outcome Report

Fall 2017

I was timid as well as thrilled when I received the task to compose a soundtrack for Lingxi Chinese Theatre. With the help of the Mini Grant Program, I was able to purchase and work with the most professional music notation software, Finale, while being away from school during winter break. Finale has a great playback setting that can almost imitate a real performance. It also has a powerful instrument library in which composers can find almost any sound they need.

I pictured the music to be dark and retrospective, but at the same time sweet and hopeful. I used the cello to add some sense of sorrow and longing in the music, and sixteen notes passages to create the endless feeling. The music reaches its climax when everything is moving, and calms down suddenly as a correlation of the beginning.

To compose for instruments that I do not play is the hardest part during my creative process. I always have the melody and how I want the sound to be in mind, but I don't know if it is possible to play by actual people. For that, I consulted some of my pianist and violinist friends to make sure the music I wrote is technically possible.

It has been an extremely fun and interesting experience to develop other sides of my musical talent. I believe there is still a long way to go and I am excited for the audiences to hear it in the April performance. I am also writing a theme song for the show with mostly the same progression but different melody to add more interest for the singer, and I will post the music on soundcloud as well after it is finished.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/tm17oapctb7d186/M%26H%20Sheet.pdf?dl=0>

<https://soundcloud.com/liu-chuanyuan/meandhe>

I would like to thank the support of Miller Arts Scholars Program again for the opportunity to develop more as a multi-sided musician and artist.

