



Works by alumni of the Technology and Applied Composition program at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. [SFCM.edu/TAC](http://SFCM.edu/TAC)

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November 1, 2019 at 7:30 pm, Osher Salon

***I Need Some Time***

- a music video by Eliza Carrington,
- performed by Eliza Carrington

**Deepwater**

- a film by Dana Moe
- original score by Niko Korolog

**EMPTY**

- a film by Nye Green
- original score by Charlie Sehres

**We Were Kids**

- a film by Matias M.R.
- original score by Teddy Raven

**The Pistol**

- a film by Xaque Gruber
- original score by Lennie Moore (SFCM TAC faculty)

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— INTERMISSION —  
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***Wings***

- by Casey McDonald (Writer/Director/Animator)
- original score by Colin Andrew Grant

**Someone**

- a music video by Eliza Carrington,
- performed by Eliza Carrington and Amelie Anna

***Indulgence***

- a film by G. Leo Maselli
- original score by "Sky" (Jim Schuyler)

***Niu Niu***

- a film by Xi Wang
- original score by Hélène Choyer

**Simple of Heart**

- a film by Bob Sitzwohl (Writer/Director)
- original score by Kyle Randall

The **Technology and Applied Composition** program [TAC] at SFCM dynamically bridges art and technology.

Notes from tonight's concert will appear at [WritingMusic.org](http://WritingMusic.org)

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## Program notes

### I Need Some Time and Someone —

**Eliza Carrington:** My two music videos, *I Need Some Time* and *Someone*, are part of my debut EP, *Island of Mine*, which was released on October 4th, 2019. I wanted to create an EP that showcased my live performance, so I recorded four of my original fingerstyle songs and created one arrangement of a Britney Spears song, *(You Drive Me) Crazy*.

*I Need Some Time* documents the story of a girl who, after feeling frustrated and anxious with life on Earth, decides to run away to space. The message behind the song is that one can take time away from a stressful situation, and come back to it later in order to face the situation with a clear mind.

*Someone* was written after I read *King Lear* in high school. The song is meant to represent Lear's turning point in the story, when he realizes that his lack of empathy for others was his biggest failure, and that empathy makes us truly human.

I filmed these two music videos after having received a Tier 1 Professional Development grant from SFCM. Thank you so much, SFCM, for funding these videos.

Thank you to Amelie Anna for percussion, Taylor Joshua Rankin for videography and editing, and Charlie Sehres for color grading.

### Deepwater —

**Dana Moe (Writer/Director):** *Deepwater* is about a San Francisco public defender and his poet cousin who struggle with depression and hopelessness against the threatening backdrop of the Golden Gate Bridge. This film is part of the upcoming anthology feature "San Francisco Stories" that will be released in January 2020. I felt that it

was important to include this story in the feature in order to highlight a flip side to the wealthy tech millennials. I chose the black and white treatment to emphasize the dark, gloomy mood of the narrative.

**Niko Korolog (Score):** Scoring this film involved a lot of underscore work, with featured music popping out at the very end. The goal was subtlety—the score fosters a sense of seriousness that balances out the comedic moments. I followed my usual process of using virtual instruments—the score features a lot of string and brass work, taking care to mimic some stock music that had already been licensed for the film (a cello and piano piece.) The result is new music that is nearly indistinguishable from the stock music.

## EMPTY—

**Nye Green (Filmmaker):** EMPTY is the story of a father searching for his family in a world empty of people, where he discovers things may not be what they seem.

Written by Keren Green, directed by Nye Green, starring Alexander Rupert Green, Edited by Rhys Green.

## We Were Kids —

**Matias M.R. (Filmmaker):** Celeste, a quick-thinking, yet sometimes naïve Latina teenager, discovers the meaning of walking with fear after an all-too-common altercation with a middle-aged white man, John. Goofing off with friends, Celeste accidentally falls onto John's lawn. John becomes irate then verbally and physically abuses the teenagers. When the teens try to defend themselves, John grabs his gun. What the teenagers discover afterward about John leaves them further paralyzed by their helplessness.

## The Pistol—

**Xaque Gruber (Filmmaker):** Two elderly ladies take down a young neighborhood thief and move to Florida.

**Lennie Moore (Score):** The first thing that came to me as I was scoring this short film about two sassy elderly ladies was the descending upright bass figure. There's something about this line that felt perfect for the film. Its simplicity, along with the Stéphane Grappelli-style jazz violin and rhythm section combo fit well with the comedy and kept things light.

# Intermission

## Wings —

**Casey McDonald (Animator):** A friendship takes flight as a mouse who wants to fly and an injured bird cross paths. Animated in TVPaint, with hand-painted watercolor backgrounds, *Wings* tells a story of kindness, acceptance, and the fear of being left behind.

**Colin Andrew Grant (Score):** This being my second collaboration with Casey, I've been able to work with her on the project since the beginning stages. For *Wings*, we really wanted to explore how we could musically touch upon the themes and feelings of chasing goals, loneliness, and ultimately the joys of friendship.

*Wings* received the Award of Excellence in the Global Shorts festival.

## Indulgence —

**"Sky" (Jim Schuyler) (Score):** The short indie film *Indulgence* by Leo Maselli tells the story of discovery and transformation. When a woman returns to San Francisco to investigate the house where she suspects she lived as a child, she finds it overrun by hundreds of clocks and a frail old man with a painfully secret past. A notably upbeat track accompanies the final scene of the film in which the heroine and the old man find a shared common ground and seize the opportunity to mark the important moment.

This film's companion piece *A Sonic Indulgence* which is a backstage featurette about the writing of the music for *Indulgence*, produced by Erik C. Parker, won three awards — the **Scary Cow** Members' Award, Outstanding Music Score and Outstanding Sound award — at the October, 2019 Scary Cow film festival in San Francisco.

## Simple of Heart —

**Bob Sitzwohl (Writer/Director):** *Simple of Heart* was my passion film. It was meant to show off my thirty-five years of lighting experience, but it became much more. It rained three out of four production days and each night as I rewrote the exterior scenes, the story told me what it needed next. I'm a visual person. I didn't have a clue what to do for music. Kyle stepped in and delivered exactly the right number of notes. (name that movie) His interpretation brought the film alive for me.

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# The TAC alumni

## Charlie Sehres

Charlie Sehres' music is a combination of influences and inspirations from Minimalism, Classical, Jazz, Rock and modern Electronic music. Charlie's most recent projects have been scoring multiple short films and an indie game. His past work includes composing and producing content for music library DL-Music, writing a song for the 30th anniversary edition of the film *Cavegirl*, as well as writing and recording an album and EP with his band *Forty Feet Tall*. Charlie's music has been placed on MTV programming, the Showtime show *Shameless* and feature film *Killing Gunther* starring Arnold Schwarzenegger.

## Colin Andrew Grant

Colin Andrew Grant is a New Jersey born composer, music editor, and sound designer for animation and interactive media. He is currently working as a music editor for 343 Industries in Seattle. For more information, visit [colinandrewgrant.com](http://colinandrewgrant.com)

## Eliza Carrington

Eliza Carrington is a singer-songwriter and classical guitarist based in Los Angeles. After completing her Bachelor of Music degree in classical guitar at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music in 2018, Carrington began recording her original music for her debut EP, *Island of Mine*. Carrington's songwriting style references her favorite influences from pop music, while still showcasing the elegance of fingerstyle guitar. Online at [www.elizacarrington.com](http://www.elizacarrington.com)

## Hélène Choyer

Hélène Choyer is a composer from France. Before earning a Professional Studies Diploma [PSD] in the Technology and Applied Composition program in May 2019, she studied piano performance and musicology in Paris. In her compositions, she creates new sounds and textures based on her various influences: classical music, jazz, electronic, heavy metal, and music of West Africa, where she partly grew up. She is proud to have earned several first national awards in France. Always passionate about cinema, she directed a short movie and a documentary and started to write soundtracks at the age of 14; since then, she has scored numerous movies, documentaries, advertisements, and TV shows. Online at [helenechoyer.com](http://helenechoyer.com)

## Kyle Randall

Born and raised in the forests of New Hampshire, **Kyle C. Randall** is a composer, orchestrator, and sound artist who currently lives in San Francisco. His work often revolves around strong notions of color, motion, and landscape.

After completing a Masters in composition at SFCM and a PSD in the TAC program, he went on to develop his career in many directions at once, from concert hall commissions to major video games to sound and music for podcasts. He recently held the composer-in-residence position for the Empire City Men's chorus, and won the American Prize for the *Kyrie* of his *New Gothic Mass*. He also sings in and co-conducts the Renaissance choral group, Tactus. Online at [KyleRandall.com](http://KyleRandall.com).

## Niko Korolog

A graduate of San Francisco Conservatory of Music, **Niko Korolog** has a background in classical and electronic music composition and game audio implementation. His clients have included Oculus, Razer, and a slew of independent game developers and filmmakers. Niko is also an accomplished pop producer. Niko's music is online at [soundcloud.com/nikokorolog](https://soundcloud.com/nikokorolog) Check out his most recent game project — *Avaloki*, Available now for Oculus Rift on the Oculus Store. Online at [NikoKorologmusic.com](http://NikoKorologmusic.com)

## “Sky” (Jim Schuyler)

**Jim Schuyler**, but call me “Sky” is a pianist turned computer scientist turned composer. At age 18 he had to decide between pursuing conservatory study with his teacher in Chicago, and a career in engineering. His PhD in Computer Science is from Northwestern University. He has founded a number of software companies. He is currently scoring and collaborating on short indie films, and is Showrunner for this series of concerts and events. Online at [www.skyHi.digital](http://www.skyHi.digital)

## Teddy Raven

Fulbright Fellow **Teddy Raven** is a saxophonist, composer, and producer based in the Bay Area. As a saxophonist, Teddy has toured the U.S., Europe, and Asia, and has performed or recorded with a diverse group of artists including Nitin Sawney, The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, Beats Antique, Gramatik, Frank London, Jazz Mafia and many more. As a composer and producer, Teddy has written and produced four albums of original music, written music for several short films, and was the 2016 recipient of the Make Jazz Fellowship in Santa Monica. A recent PSD graduate of the Technology and Applied

Composition Department, Teddy is currently freelancing as a performer and composer with many exciting projects in the works! Online at [TeddyRaven.com](http://TeddyRaven.com)

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## TAC Faculty

### Lennie Moore

**Lennie Moore** is an SFCM faculty member in the Technology and Applied Composition department, and we welcome his contribution to tonight's program. Online at [LennieMoore.com](http://LennieMoore.com)

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## Filmmakers

### Leo Maselli, writer and producer (*Indulgence*)

**Leo Maselli** began writing, directing and producing films during the last 10 years of his career as a San Francisco stockbroker. His wonderfully complex characters, provocative endings and non-tragic themes strive to present humankind as they seek to reinvent themselves in the complex world around them. As a teller of narratives set in a broad range of genres, I think of myself as finally being part of a very fine and very true tradition.

### Casey McDonald, animator (*Wings*)

**Casey McDonald** is a girl with a frog hat who really likes to draw! She majored in animation at the School of Visual arts, and during her time there was a recipient of the Silas H. Rhodes Scholarship Award, the Animation Department Pre-Production Grant, and the Alumni Scholarship Award. Her works include her third-year film, *Wobbly*, about dealing with anxiety, and her thesis film, *Wings*. She has worked as an animator and cleanup artist at Cartuna and Hornet on projects such as *Liverspots and Astronots*, *Megablok*, and several other upcoming Facebook Watch animated series. Her favorite part of the animation process is storyboarding! Casey is on twitter @caseyannemcd and on the web at [caseyanneanimation.myportfolio.com](http://caseyanneanimation.myportfolio.com).

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## Dana Moe, filmmaker (*Deepwater*)

*Deepwater*, the fourth film written and directed by **Dana Moe**, is a segment in the upcoming anthology feature, *San Francisco Stories*. Dana has won writing and directing awards for *Deepwater* and her previous films, *Uber Mom* (2016), *Guilt* (2015) and *Rest Stop*, which was adapted from the Stephen King short story. Dana also moderates the Scary Cow Screenwriters' Group and occasionally moonlights as casting director and actor.

## Matias M.R., filmmaker (*We Were Kids*)

**Matias M.R.** is a filmmaker from Chile who relocated to Los Angeles in 2012. In 2016, Matias M.R. Directed the short-documentary *Estampas de la Raza* which aired on KCET and was considered for an EMMY nomination. That same year he became a film mentor at the Latino Film Institute Youth Cinema Project, a non-profit founded by actor Edward James Olmos, where he learns from and is empowered by his middle-school and high-school students. It is from their experience that he was inspired to create *We Were Kids*.

Matias M.R. is concurrently developing an episodic series, which was a finalist at Sundance Episodic Lab 2018, based on his personal experience marrying an American and relocating to the United States to build a family.



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You may help financially support future live performances at [WritingMusic.org](http://WritingMusic.org) — all donations go directly to fund musicians and performers.

**skyHi Digital:** Tonight's event was produced by skyHi Digital, Inc. Online at [www.skyhi.digital](http://www.skyhi.digital)

Here's a big "Thank you" to **Matt Levine** and **Costas Dafnis**, SFCM faculty members, for reviewing the films for this event.

**Scary Cow** is a San Francisco Bay Area film cooperative, and was incubator for three of tonight's films. [ScaryCow.com](http://ScaryCow.com)