

PROGRAM

ACT I

Student Works

I. *Manipulation*

Composer: Max Richter—

On the Nature of Daylight

Music Director/Arranger: **Winston Harris**

Choreographer: **Lenai Wilkerson**

Dancers: **Jack Miller, Asia Mitchell, Maurice**

Mouzon, Alexandria Wright, Abigail Yaffe

Musicians: **Sebastian Stefanovic,**

Yuka Kubota, violin; **Thomas Chafe**, viola;

Emily Cornett, violoncello;

Winston Harris, bass

II. *An Afternoon Together*

Writer/Director/Editor: **Tom Burke**

Cast (in order of appearance)

Ania Flanigan, Ava Geenen

III. *World*

Vocalist: **Jazmin Bangura**

Choreographer: **Bri Porter**

Dancers: **Savionne Chambers,**

Melanie Jerome, Anna Peabody,

Bri Porter, Alexandra Rojas,

Alessandra Wun

Piano: **Tyron Tention**

IV. *Fata Morgana*

Composer: **Denis Bauerschmidt Sweeney**

Choreographer/Dancer: **Abigail Yaffe**

Co-Choreographer/Dancer: **Asia Mitchell**

Musicians: **Sarah Pinto**, oboe;

Sebastian Stefanovic, viola;

Emily Cornett, violoncello

V. *Iron*

Music Director: **Kaela Pittman**

Composer: **Woodkid**

Choreographer: **Savionne Chambers**

Digital Projections: **Danielle Caulk**

Dancers: **Zara Anwar, Willis Brandon**

Musicians: **Cameron Bessicks, Kelsey Brown,**

Delroy Gaither, Troy Long, Joseph Parrish,

Kaela Pittman, Tasja Slaughter,

Cole Summers, Jasmyn Toon

INTERMISSION

ACT II

The Codex Project

“I remember my first time browsing through *The Codex* and thinking ‘I wish I knew what this meant’ then realizing that this is exactly what the author wanted from me: to wonder about the existence of meaning, regardless of what it could be, or even if it existed.

From that moment on, I embarked on a partially guided journey with the book, trying to decipher it but understanding that the decoding was in fact my own story, that the meanings I found were actually self-imposed.

I tried to do the same with my music. I’ve created tableaux that emulate my readings of the depicted actions, but also being careful to not create something too indexical or too axiomatic, fully embracing ambiguity as an expressive tool.”

—Composer Marcos Balter

Overture

Music: Chorus

Entering the Harbor

Music: *Flora*

The Girl makes her way alone in a small boat across the river at night. Another faster boat enters, piloted by the Ferryman. He gains on the Girl and abducts her.

The Scribe at Work

Music: *Fauna*

The Scribe, author of the Codex, wakes at his drafting table. Images from his creation drift across the sky. The Scribe works feverishly into the night in an attempt to chart a course through his creation to find the missing girl whose face appears and recedes in the fog.

Mapping the Earth

Music: *Anthropology*

Dancers swirl through space as the topography of the Codex comes to life.

The Scribe Dances with Light

Music: *Hermetica*

The Scribe’s Doppelgänger within the world of the Codex performs a virtuosic dance. His arm is a giant fountain pen drafting images in light across the night sky.

Entering the Creation Chorus

The Girl appears for a brief moment, running across the landscape. She is trailed by a mysterious priestess. The Scribe discovers his Doppelgänger. Shaken by the sight of one another, the fearful scribes begin to spar. Disguised as an old man, the Ferryman enters and entices both scribes into the world to search for the Girl. The old man reveals himself to be an evil conjuror. He takes his place presiding over the court.

The Conjuror

Music: *Culture*

The Conjuror casts a sinister spell which transforms the scribes and all the inhabitants of the Codex into sets of conjoined twins.

The Burning City

Music: *Architecture*

Pairs of conjoined twins lope around a dark, dystopian landscape. The entire city is on fire.

Search for The Girl Chorus

The Girl is huddled in captivity. The conjoined scribes are unable to free themselves. They embark upon a journey to free the Girl and to reverse the evil magic of the Conjuror’s spell.

Journey through the Forest

Music: *Register Albertine Gone*

The conjoined scribes encounter many creatures on their journey, which concludes at a castle from which a beautiful Priestess emerges.

Linguistics

Members of the instrumental ensemble play their instruments using extended techniques.

Removing the Spell

Music: *Machinery*

The beautiful Priestess takes her place above the twins. She whistles a hauntingly lovely tune, magically releasing the twins from the Conjuror’s spell.

Bipeds

Music: *Bipeds*

The Scribe is left alone, exhausted from the separation. Biped creatures spirit the Scribe out of the world of the Codex and back to his desk where he is left sleeping.

A New Day

Music: *Games*

Day breaks as the newly freed inhabitants of the Codex dance together revealing the Girl safe and sound. She is gently lifted back to the real world where she finds the Scribe sleeping. She wakes him tenderly and they embrace, joyful to be reunited

Endless World Chorus

Within the Codex, a swirling dance culminates in the Doppelgänger Scribe’s final confrontation with, and defeat of, the evil Conjuror.

Curtain Call

A great jubilation ensues as harmony is restored to both worlds.

The Codex Project

A world premiere multimedia performance piece inspired by *Codex Seraphinianus*, an illustrated encyclopedia of an imaginary world originally published in 1981 by Luigi Serafini, an Italian artist, architect, and industrial designer. Award-winning contemporary composer Marcos Balter was so fascinated by this strange and beautiful book that he created a score. Nadia Sirota & Katherine Helen Fisher, graduates of BSA, were in turn interested in expanding upon Marcos’s work. When Chris Ford approached them about undertaking a project at Baltimore School for the Arts, *Imagined Worlds* was born. Nearly a year in the making, this exciting collaboration brings cutting edge technology, modern artistic techniques, and internationally recognized young artists to Baltimore. The Codex Project was developed at BSA with, and for, our students who are featured on stage and behind the scenes.



Our Guest Artists

Marcos Balter is a noted composer. Honors include commissions from Chamber Music America, the Fromm Foundation at Harvard University, the Holland/America Music Society, the MacArthur Foundation, and the Art Institute of Chicago, as well as fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, and Tanglewood Music Center/Leonard Bernstein Foundation, and first prizes in several national and international composition competitions. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and currently an Associate Professor of Music Composition at Montclair State University. His work has been praised by *The Chicago Tribune*, *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*.

Adam Battelstein has worked as a dancer, actor, choreographer and writer. He has appeared on *Good Morning America*, *The Ellen Show*, *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and the *2007 Academy Awards*. He has toured with Pilobolus and as a guest artist with Momix all over the world and has appeared at the Joyce Theater in NYC and soloed live at Carnegie Hall. He was noted by the NY Times for his “comic genius.” Adam started Catapult Entertainment LLC in 2009 and has created films and live performances for dozens of large corporations including YMCA and Girl Scouts of America. Catapult recently launched an evening-length show which has toured over 100 cities in Europe.

Dante Baylor, BSA '03, is wardrobe master for Alvin Ailey and tours with them. He designed the costume for *The Ferryman* and *The Conjuror* working with junior stage design and production students.

Katherine Helen Fisher, BSA '97, is a director, producer, performer, and choreographer for stage and screen. A member of The Lucinda Childs Dance Company since 2008, she has appeared in the seminal Philip Glass opera, *Einstein On the Beach*, as well as the current staging of *Available Light*, a Frank Gehry collaboration. Her works have been presented at Art Basil Switzerland, LACMA, Radio City Music Hall, Judson Church, Danspace and the Brooklyn Museum of Art among other venues. Fisher is Creative Director of Safety Third Productions, crafting innovative digital media content.

Mike Riggs is resident lighting designer for Morales Dance and Matthew Westerby Company. His credits include dance for Dance Exchange, Misomer, Chitresh Das Dance Co., ODC, and Off-Broadway theater. He also works in Regional Theater and Opera.

Nadia Sirota, BSA '00, is a violist, radio show host and creator, collaborative artist, and producer. A graduate of Juilliard, her debut album *First Things First* was named a record of the year by *The New York Times*, and her follow-up *Baroque* has been called “beautiful music of a higher order” by *SPINMedia*.

David Title is the Chief Creative Officer at Bravo Media. Based in New York City, Bravo Media is a consumer engagement and multi-platform production company. Its robust in-house team of video, animation and photography creators work hand-in-hand with experiential designers and developers to deliver dynamic content that garners attention and drives action.

BSA Students

Actor

The Scribe – James Doggett

Dancers

The Girl – Abigail Yaffe

Doppelganger Scribe –
Maurice Mouzon

Understudy – Willis Brandon

Old Man/Conjuror – Jared Kelly

Priestess – Zara Anwar

Grace Adams, Natalie Adams, Zara Anwar, Megan Argentieri, Willis Brandon, Jared Kelly, Melanie Jerome, Jack Miller, Maurice Mouzon, Shermia Newman, Briana Norwood, Brianna Papparotto, Anna Peabody, Alexandra Rojas, Alexandria Wright, Alessandra Wun, Abigail Yaffe

Orchestra

Violin I: Grace Carney, Yuka Kubota, Elizabeth Gange, Juliana Benson

Violin II: Lynn Rowell, Maya Giles, Katerina Volkov, Aszana Lopez-Bell

Viola: Sebastian Stefanovic, Tommy Chafe, Lea Broussard

Cello: Emily Cornett, Alexandra Whelan, Wheeler Jarvis, Luka Stefanovic

Bass: Winston Harris, Elliott Shaul-Thompson

Flute: Cierra Hall

Oboe: Sarah Pinto

Bassoon: Mateen Milan

Soprano Sax: Troy Long

Horn: Kiri Maza

Trumpet: Cameron Bessicks

Harp: Taliah Curtis, Jacqueline Pollauf*

Piano: Seth Schultheis, Michael Sheppard*, Choo Choo Hu*

Percussion: Evan Hart, Mark Demull*

Chorus

Marcus Andrews, Tayman Baker, Jazmin Bangura, Nailiah Clahoun, Brennan Colson, Jonathon Edwards, Rana Hardnett, Maurice Harrington, Nya Harris, Hakeem Henderson, Ceimone Henry, Myles Hoes, Claire Iverson, Anaya Johnson, Jordan Kiser, Natalee Lowe, Amber Merritt, Matthew Moore, Jade Nelson, Saran Oseitutu, Joseph Parrish, Kaela Pittman, Alea Powell, Lauren Redditt, Nina Regenold, Jaylyn Simmons, Tyron Tention, Eliza Triolo, Oznur Tuluoglu

Visual Artists

Jailyn Elcock, Mira Isackson, Neysa Johnson, Terryl McLorn, Jordan Patterson, Sheilah Rubin-Wylie, Adam Santos-Powell, Cade Simon, Caroline Wilson

Costume Construction & Design

Jaelyn Bell, Ayla Boykin, Faith Branham, Angela Crowder, Tatiana Martino, Julian Owens-Brunt, Jordan Patterson (Scribes), Isabella Pittman, Alaina Pomeroy, Delvonte Wilson

Stage Manager, Gaia Bethel-Birch

Light Operator, Julian Owens-Brunt

Sound Operator, Alaina Pomeroy

Projection Operator, Cade Simon

Production Assistant, Genevieve Schuh*

Stagehand, Faith Branham

Wardrobe, Maggy Davis, Tatiana Martino

*Guest artists

Producer **Dr. Chris Ford**

Director & Choreographer **Katherine Helen Fisher**

Associate Choreographer on Shadow Dance **Adam Battelstein**

Partnering Choreography Consultant **Manelich Minnifee**

BSA Rehearsal Director, Dance **Debra Robinson Deckelbaum**

BSA Dance Advisor **Anton Wilson**

BSA Acting Coach, Fight Choreographer Consultant **Richard Pilcher**

Composer **Marcos Balter**

Music Director **Nadia Sirota**

BSA Conductor, Orchestra & Chorus **Dr. Mark Hardy**

Art Director/BSA Arts Technologist **Pat Galluzzo**

BSA Production Manager **Paul Christensen**

BSA Production Assistant **Brian Kehoe**

Lighting Director (The Codex Project) **Michael Riggs**

Creative Consultant **David Title**

BSA Visual Content Team Leader **Archie Veale**

Graphic Specialists **Mimi Dang and Jose Rosero**

BSA Resident Costume Designer **Norah Worthington**

Specialty Costumer Design **Dante Baylor**

Creative Partners **Bravo Media, Inc. & Catapult Entertainment, LLC.**

Special Thanks

Imagined Worlds would not have been possible without the resources available in BSA's brand new Center for Collaborative Arts & Technology and upgrades to the Schaefer Ballroom. Thanks to the JS Plank and Dana DiCarlo Family Foundation, the France-Merrick Foundation, the Pearlstone Family Fund and others for supporting these initiatives and for helping to keep BSA at the forefront of arts and technology.

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Imagined Worlds

April 17, 7 pm
April 18, 2 pm & 7 pm

Presenting
Original Works
Created & Performed by BSA students
&
The Codex Project

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