



AFTER THE FLOOD

a sci-fi choral opera

devised by the USD Choral Scholars
with artists-in-residence
Fahad Siadat & André Megerdichian



La Atalaya Foundation Theatre at the Mingei Museum
1439 El Prado, Plaza de Panama, Balboa Park
Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

After the Flood: A Sci-Fi Choral Opera

The University of San Diego Choral Scholars

Emilie Amrein, artistic director & Lisa Pagan, piano

Fahad Siadat & André Megerdichian, guest facilitators

In 1954, a doomsday cult received a prophecy about a great flood that would wipe out life on earth. The prophecy assured the cult members, who called themselves Seekers, that they would be saved from certain death by alien guardians who had other plans for life on earth.

In this sci-fi choral opera, the USD Choral Scholars imagine what might happen after the flood in narratives that explore themes of collectivism, belonging, the post-apocalyptic, and the post-human. Our opera takes place in five scenes, in a dystopian post-flood compound. In each scene, there are three different character groups who interact with one another – Aliens Guardians, Seekers who are in various states of transition into Hybrids (humans who have been molecularly altered by the Aliens), and Human Survivors.

Synopsis

Opening Chorus:

Under the deep blue oceans of this world
lie the graves of knowledge and history,
where humanity in its primal youth
built the pantheons of sky gods with truth

Text by Juan Manuel Perez / Music by Emilie Amrein

Scene 1

After an apocalyptic flood covers the Earth, many of the surviving humans are imprisoned and exploited by an alien civilization. One alien decides to resist against their own people and attempts to free the humans. The prisoners then initiate the revolution.

Devised by Nathan Burns, Joseph Ceballos, Kai Hopkinson, Julia McAtee, and Melissa Tumlos

Interlude:

All weapons trained on the tiny blue world

Text by Juan Manuel Perez / Music by Emilie Amrein

Scene 2

The scene begins with an act of vengeance. Throughout the rest of the scene, we learn of the events leading up to the murder, where many interests are betrayed. Scarcity plagues survivors and seekers alike, and a black market economy emerges as a mechanism for survival.

Devised by Donovan Alcones, Genesis Capellán, Corinne Hansel, Katelyn Osborne, and RJ Parry

Interlude:

Moon dust smells like gunpowder on the eve of revelation

Text by Juan Manuel Perez / Music by Emilie Amrein

Scene 3

We come across a seeker, imprisoned by two alien captors for smuggling contraband into the camp. A human survivor sneaks into the tower and a conflict ensues. An alien is semi-empathetic to the resistance.

Devised by Osa Iyoha, Tatum Mosley, Allysa Mulrain, Katy Rempel, and Roderick Utz

Interlude:

Light of dawn breaking the horizon

Text by Juan Manuel Perez / Music by Emilie Amrein

Scene 4

Amidst battling humans, aliens, and hybrids, can love still prevail? Two childhood best friends must brave the test of separation and hybridization to decide if humans and hybrids are too different to reunite.

Devised by Angélique Brown, Joe Cortina, Myra Metz, Viviana Moiso, and Carly O'Rear

Interlude:

Distant, invisible cords between us

Text by Juan Manuel Perez / Music by Emilie Amrein

Scene 5

In this final scene, amidst a young woman's punishment, we flashback to the events leading up to the flood, the forming of the doomsday cult, and the creation of the very first seeker hybrids. Initially seduced by promises of peace for the human race, a housewife is brought to the forefront of the cult only to discover the Alien's true aspirations.

Devised by Jack Hemphill, Rosy Johnson, Xavier Kouamé, John Mitchell, and Grace Moore

Closing Chorus:

May these words be the first to find your ears.
After the flood comes, a new earth appears.
We'll find ourselves in stories and song, born anew
over and over and over...

Text and Music by Emilie Amrein

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