The Silence: Overture and Two Scenes from an Opera in Two Acts

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THE SILENCE:
OVERTURE AND TWO SCENES FROM
AN OPERA IN TWO ACTS

THESIS

A Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of Master of Music in the
College of Fine Arts
at the University of Kentucky

By

Eric Jurgens
Lexington, Kentucky

Director: Joseph Baber, Professor of Composition
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ABSTRACT OF THESIS

THE SILENCE:
OVERTURE AND TWO SCENES FROM
AN OPERA IN TWO ACTS

The Silence is the story of William Rose, a man who, while searching the world for his missing wife and daughter, is kidnapped and held in a secret Iranian prison. After many years of torture, abuse and a slow descent into insanity, secrets about his family manifest as mysterious and magical occurrences, creating a dangerous tension between the prisoners and guards. Questions begin to arise: Who is actually in charge of this prison? Why haven’t the guards ever met the warden? Why is the prison haunted by mysterious voices? And what exactly would it take to crumble the walls of this corrupt institution?

Act II scene iii, The Hour of Angels – William sits alone in his cell, carving the images of his wife and daughter into the wall. As he begs his family to come back to him, the image of his wife slowly comes to life.

Intermezzo and Act II scene i, Danger in the Meadow – Flashback. The prison guards spy on Christina and Madelyn Rose as they play in a meadow not far from the secret prison. Christina sees them hiding and in a panic sends her daughter to a distant building to hide and look for help.

KEYWORDS: Music, Composition, Opera Theater, Musical Theater, Orchestra

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April 27, 2013
THE SILENCE:
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Clasp my hand, I'll lead you through the...
qui - et qui - et night in - to a world of free - dom on our
in your arms again!
Intermezzo
Shh!

What did they come from?

Be silent. Do not talk to each other.

Solo p

Shh!

The place cares, who cares.

Where did they come from?
Act II scene i: Danger in the Meadow
let's play Radio-harmon. I will be blue so a and you'll be right so di tal!
While walking home there came a sound that gave me a terrible fright. Out from the dark came three strange notes.
I'm going to say 296. 

Lis 296. 

b Lis 296. 

Lis 296. 

run, and you're going to run faster than you ever have before. You will see circumstances that you never had before. You never have.
VITA

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