

Queer Urban Orchestra
January 2021 Board Meeting

Date: January 21, 2021
Zoom Video Conference

Board Members In Attendance: Bjorn Berkhout, Christopher Campbell, Lynn Caron, Alan Hyde, Navin Manglani, Ron Nahass, Scott Oaks, Kevin Schmitt

Non-Board Members In Attendance: Todd Porter, Ian Shafer

Call to Order: 7:07pm

1. Approval of December 2020 Meeting Minutes

Passes Unanimously

2. Reflection of December QUO Get-Together

- a. Successful first attempt, positive reception
- b. Ron will organize and host next meeting for Wednesday, February 24, 2021 @ 6-7:30pm

3. DCLA (New York City Department of Cultural Affairs) Grant Report

- a. \$6900 grant for this season (2020-2021)
 - i. Seek out commission from established composer (PoC/LGBTQ+, should have won an award or have a press agent), emerging composer, and student (university level, preferably NYC based) composer
 - ii. Chamber music or virtual style performance (will depend on health & safety climate in June 2021)
 - iii. Paid marketing to go towards performing in outer boroughs
- b. \$5000 grant for next season (2021-2022)
- c. Cannot be used for capital gains/expenses/equipment
- d. Emerging composers should send links to work before next board meeting

Approval to accept this grant

1- Navin, 2- Kevin, passes unanimously

4. Personnel Manager

Approve the Appointment of Craig Deveraux to the role of Personnel Manager

1- Alan, 2- Navin, passes unanimously

5. Strategic Plan Process (details below)

- a. Begin putting together committee to represent different sections of orchestra

- b. Goal is committee of 9 Members: 1 strings, 1 woodwinds, 1 brass, 1 percussion, Artistic Director, General Manager, 1 Board Member, 2 Members At Large
1- Navin, 2- Lynn, Passes unanimously
 - c. Email Bjorn ideas of people to appoint/invite
- 6. G-Suite Update
 - a. Contact Clint about QUONYC.org domain
 - b. Christopher will be added as an Administrator to help work technical difficulties
- 7. Discussion for Season 2021-2022 scheduled for February 2022 Meeting (details below)
 - a. Board members will review current proposal for next meeting

Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 9, 2021 @ 7pm

8:25pm Motion to move to executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

Strategic Plan Process

Mission

The Queer Urban Orchestra (QUO) is a musical organization dedicated to the promotion of fine arts in the New York City metropolitan area whose membership is open to all adult musicians regardless of age, race, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity. QUO strives to entertain and educate members and audiences alike through performances of classical and contemporary music, promoting equality, understanding, acceptance, and respect.

Strategic Plan Process

The purpose of the committee is to craft a set of recommendations, consistent with the mission of the orchestra, to guide our development as an orchestra over the next five years.

The committee recommendations should address the following three areas:

- Values*
- Vision*
- Action*

Values: *What are the core values of QUO that make us unique and shape who we are*

- 1. These values should support the mission statement*
- 2. Recommendations to update the language of the mission statement may be made for the purposes of clarifying the core the values of the orchestra*

Vision: *What direction do we want QUO to go. Specifically:*

- 1. What activities should we focus on over the next five years that reflect our core values?*
- 2. How should our website and social media reflect these core values from the perspectives of our core members, potential members and audience members?*
- 3. What needs to be done over the next five years to maintain the creative health of the orchestra with regard to programing, membership and skills building?*
- 4. What needs to be done over the next five years with regards to the needs and scope of our membership and audience?*
- 5. What needs to be done over the next five years with regards the types and scope of our community outreach*
- 6. What needs to be done over the next five years with regards to development and governance structures*

Input of the Artistic Director: Ian Shaefer, QUO's Artistic Director, has presented a vision statement that is modeled on the one he presented when applying for the position. The committee should discuss and evaluate the different aspects of the vision and is free to adopt, adjust or even reject those elements of the vision that inspire, resonate or run counter to the vision the committee wishes to craft.

Action: *What action plan is needed to achieve the vision above? The action plan should address the following:*

1. *Feasibility: what can be realistically achieved within the time frame, governance structure and resources the committee is imagining*
2. *Priorities: what is the order to the actions that need to be taken to achieve the vision, and what aspects of the vision are the most important to achieve*
3. *Budget: what are the top budget priorities for the next five years and what is the optimal balance between the scope of the governance structures to the size of the operating budget for the next five years*
4. *Benchmarks: how and when do we measure each plank of the action plan to determine if we have been successful in reaching our vision*

Committee make up: 12 members

- *4 members from the strings, ideally one drawn from each section*
- *2 members from the winds (not the same instrument)*
- *2 members from brass/percussion (not the same instrument)*
- *Artistic Director*
- *3 additional spots*

Once formed the committee should elect a chair and secretary.

The committee represents the whole of the orchestra and should not hesitate to consult with the whole of the orchestra using the committee members as liaisons to the represented sections when appropriate.

Mission

The Queer Urban Orchestra (QUO) is a musical organization dedicated to the promotion of fine arts in the New York City metropolitan area whose membership is open to all adult musicians regardless of age, race, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity. QUO strives to entertain and educate members and audiences alike through performances of classical and contemporary music, promoting equality, understanding, acceptance, and respect.

Strategic Plan Process

The purpose of the committee is to craft a set of recommendations, consistent with the mission of the orchestra, to guide our development as an orchestra over the next five years.

The committee recommendations should address the following three areas:

- Values
- Vision
- Action

Values: What are the core values of QUO that make us unique and shape who we are

1. These values should support the mission statement
2. Recommendations to update the language of the mission statement may be made for the purposes of clarifying the core the values of the orchestra

Vision: What direction do we want QUO to go. Specifically:

1. What activities should we focus on over the next five years that reflect our core values?
2. How should our website and social media reflect these core values from the perspectives of our core members, potential members and audience members?
3. What needs to be done over the next five years to maintain the creative health of the orchestra with regard to programing, membership and skills building?
4. What needs to be done over the next five years with regards to the needs and scope of our membership and audience?
5. What needs to be done over the next five years with regards the types and scope of our community outreach
6. What needs to be done over the next five years with regards to development and governance structures

Input of the Artistic Director: Ian Shaefer, QUO's Artistic Director, has presented a vision statement that is modeled on the one he presented when applying for the position. The committee should discuss and evaluate the different aspects of the vision and is free to adopt, adjust or even reject those elements of the vision that inspire, resonate or run counter to the vision the committee wishes to craft.

Action: What action plan is needed to achieve the vision above? The action plan should address the following:

Queer Urban Orchestra, Ian Shafer, Artistic Director

Season 2021-22, "Alive with Spirit"

Featured Soloists: Andrew Sords, Violin; Matthieu Cognet, Spencer Myer, James Adler, pianos

Season Highlights: BALAM Dance Company, a New work from the Trans Community

Cycle one: Oct. 23, 2021

with Andrew Sords, violin

(70') 7 rehearsals Sept. 8, 15, 22, 29, Oct 6, 13, 20

Higdon: *Fanfare Ritmico*

conducted by Luke Nosal

(6') (1999) 3[1.2.3/pic] 3 3*[1.2.bcl] 3*[1.2.cbn] – 4 3 3 1 – tmp+4 – hp – pf – str*

Korngold: *Violin Concerto (1937; rev 1945) with Andrew Sords*

(24') 2(1.2/pic) 2*(1.2/Eh) 3*(1.2.bcl) 2 – 4 2 1 0 – tmp+2 (glock, xyl, vib, cym, bd) – hp – cel – str*

===== *Intermission* =====

Beethoven: *Symphony no. 5*

(31') (1807-08) 3[1.2.pic] 2 2 3[1.2.cbn] – 2 2 3 0 – tmp – str

Cost: Korngold, Corigliano Rentals, Soloist fee, Harpist, possible xyl rental

Cycle Two: Dec. 18, 2021:

7 rehearsals: Oct. 27, Nov. 3, 10, 17, Dec 1, 8, 15. Buffer Week: Dec. 22

Corigliano: *Gazebo Dances Mvt I "Overture"*

conducted by Luke Nosal

(13') 2[1.2/pic] 2 2 2 – 4 3 3 1 – tmp+3(bd, cym, sus cym, sd, td, tri, tam xyl, handbell) – str*

Strauss: *Metamorphosen* (rental)

(27') str (6 6 4 4 3) (23 players)

===== *Intermission* =====

Tchaikovsky: *Symphony no. 4* (1877-78)

(44') 3[1.2.3/pic] 2 2 2 – 4 2 3 1 – tmp+3(bd, cym, tri) – str (imslp)

Cost: Corigliano and Strauss rentals

Cycle Three: Jan 22, 2022: Quotets
(75') Dec 29, Jan 5, Jan 12, Jan 19. (No buffer week)

Saylor, Bruce: Rituals

with Fran Novak, Travis Fraser, Paul Robertson

(10') (2016) solo CL, Bcl, Xy – str **(parts provided by composer) Other Works TBD**

Cost: No other cost beyond hall rental.

Cycle Four: Mar 12 & 13, 2022:
“Alternative Energy” with Matthieu Conget, piano
(76’) 7 rehearsals: Jan 26, Feb 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar 2, 9. Buffer week: Mar 16

New Work of a Trans Composer

conducted by Luke Nosal

**A new initiative from QUO to support the Trans community*

(5’-10’) 2 2 2 2 – 4 3 3 1 – tmp – str

Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto no. 3,

with Matthieu Connet, piano

(38’) (1909) 2 2 2 2 – 2 2 0 0 – tmp – str (imslp)

===== *Intermission* =====

Mason Bates: *Alternative Energy* (2011)

(32’) – 3+{1/pic.2/alto/pic. 3/pic}, 3*{3/Eh}, 3*{1.2/Eb.3}, 3*{3/cbn}, – 4 3 3 1 – elec.+3 – hp, pf, – str*

Perc: glock, vib, hi-hat, tomtom, marim, sd, tamtam, bd, gong, szl cym, xyl, crot, chimes, tri, thunder, button-gong(2 oct tuned gongs) shaker, djembe, sticks, Chinese Cym, car parts, scrap metal, 2 ratchet, 3sus cym, 2 woodblk, 2 wind-chimes[bamboo & ceramic], logdrum

Electronica: laptop; 6 house speakers, 2 subwoofers, 5-6 onstage monitors—all speakers controlled by an in-house sound engineer. Laptop performer need not have computer expertise; software is supplied by the publisher. [Rental Info](#)

Cost: Bates, and Percussion Rentals, soloist fee.

Cycle Five: May 7, 2022:

***With James Adler, piano
and BALAM Dance company***

(81') 7 rehearsals: Mar. 23, 30, Ap 6, Ap 13, Ap 20, Ap 27, May 4.

**Roussel: *Le festin de l'araignée (Spider's Feast)* (1913) with BALAM Dance company (16') 2*[1.2/pic]
2*[1.2/eh] 2 2 – 2 2 0 0 – tmp+1(sd, cym, bd; tri*) – hp – cel – str THIS IS GOING TO TAKE A
SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF REHEARSAL TIME WITH DANCERS**

**Rachmaninov: *Piano Concerto no. 2* with James Adler, piano
(33') (1900-01) 2 2 2 2 – 4 2 3 1 – tmp+2[bd, cym] – str (imslp)**

===== Intermission =====

**Sibelius: *Symphony no. 2*
(45') 2 2 2 2 – 4 3 3 1 – tmp – str (imslp)**

Cost: soloist fee

*purchase of Roussel parts: Rental \$91, Purchase \$150 **music here***

QUO S.13 (21-22)v.4 [final]

**Cycle Six: Pride Concert, June 18, 2022,
Featured Soloists: Spencer Myer, piano**

(79) 6 rehearsals: May 11, 18, 25, Jun 1, 8, 15

Herman/arr. Wendel: *La Cage aux Folles: Selections*

conducted by Luke Nosal

(4.5') 3[1.2.pic] 2 2 2 – 4 3 3 1 – tmp+3(drumset) – hp – str

Galindo, Gilbert: *Hymn to the Sky*

(6') (2019) 2*[1.2/pic] 2 2*[1.2/bcl] 2 – 2 2 2 1 – tmp+2 – hp – str

[crash cym, xlo, Anvil, tam, tri, sus cym, chime, bd, marm, vib, glk] (*parts provided by composer*)

Ponchielli: *Dance of the Hours*

conducted by Luke Nosal

(6.5') 2 2 2 2 – 4 4 3 1 – tmp+1 – str

===== Intermission =====

Beethoven: *Piano Concerto no. 4 with Spencer Myer*

(34') 1 2 2 2 – 2 2 0 0 – tmp – str (*imslp*)

Williams: *Star Wars Suite*

(25') (1979) 3[1.2.3/pic] 2 3[1.2.bcl] 2 – 4 3 3 1 – tmp+4 – hp, cel/pf – str *signature edition rental*

cost: Williams rental, soloist fee, La cage purchase