

GERMAINE'S OPERAS

— Full-Length Operas —

REQUIEM in RED: the Volcanic Life of Katia Krafft

A fiery deep dive into Krafft's life, psyche and legacy within the larger context of volcanic mythology and geoscience. In 1991, Katia's obsession with volcanoes cost her the remainder of her life. Not yet 50 years old, she raced to Japan for the eruption of Mt. Unzen, lingering on the volcano's flank long after more cautious scientists had fled. With sudden ferocity the sleeping giant reared up and released an apocalypse of burning lava. Katia, caught in a fast-moving pyroclastic flow of doomsday proportions, died alongside her husband. Was she a martyr to the advancement of science or one more casualty of a dangerous love affair?



Composer: Kirsten Volness Status: in-progress Available: a proposal and libretto

THE BIRD LADY: a universal story about opposites, self-sacrifice and the struggle to protect what one loves



An eccentric young woman known as the Bird Lady lives a life of timeless simplicity in a well-tended garden with only her equally eccentric old gardener for human company — until a brash young man determined to build his dream home buys the adjoining lot. When the Bird Lady and her new neighbor clash over the felling of a tree planted squarely on the property line, sparks fly.

Composer: Timothy Miller Status: workshop-ready Available: full libretto, score and MIDIs, and [a video of Act One](#) as showcased at the Nat'l Opera Center

IN VENICE: an opera about the Pursuit of Love and Inspiration (not necessarily in that order)

Based on the Edith Wharton short stories. The young biographer of a renowned poet chances upon the poet's much talked-about Muse during a sojourn in Venice. They spend a week together — ostensibly, to collaborate on a volume of verse. Instead, romance blossoms. Ten years later, the biographer returns to Venice with his young socialite wife, having sold his Muse's love letters to pay for the honeymoon. Can a Muse inspire the most sublime sonnets in the history of poetry and yet not be loved?



Composer: Paul Scherer Status: workshop-ready Available: full libretto and score, complete set of studio recordings

FIRSTBORN SON

As the Nazis rampaged across Europe, heroes were born. One was a Polish girl barely out of her teens who followed her heart and lived by her wits to save the lives of a dozen Jewish friends — one of whom was pregnant. More than forty years would pass before this miracle child and his rescuer at last met face-to-face. This is their story.

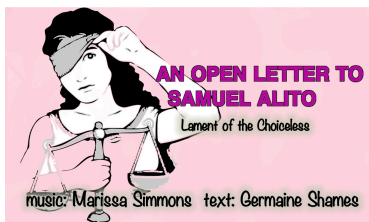


A work of fiction inspired by the life of Irene Gut Opdyke, Righteous Among the Nations.

Composer: Jane K Status: libretto complete Available: libretto, oral histories

—One-Act Operas—

AN OPEN LETTER TO SAMUEL ALITO: Lament of the Choiceless



In May 2022, American women got a first glimpse of the Supreme Court opinion that would overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Drafted by ultra-conservative Justice Samuel Alito, the opinion draws on the "wisdom" of a 17th century witch-burner to strip away women's right to bodily autonomy. In this epistolary lament, the choiceless sing truth to power.

Composer: Marissa Simmons Status: performance-ready Available: libretto, score, midi

BOMB SQUAD RHAPSODY: an operatic monologue in tribute to returning war vet's

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that as many as 20% of returning combatants struggle with PTSD. Most do not seek help in transitioning back to civilian life. In crafting "Bomb Squad Rhapsody," the creators endeavor to give voice to veterans suffering in silence and to foster empathy for their hard-fought journey home.



Composer: Jane K Status: performance-ready Available: libretto, score, midi

BEGINNING: Love. Lust. Lockdown...



In the near future, in a world where people are divided into "essentials" and "non-essentials," and their lives governed by a faceless virtual regime, two would-be lovers meet — only to be forced into lockdown by an invisible scourge. A story of attraction amid isolation, of freedom in captivity, and ultimately of resilience, "Beginning" has drawn comparisons to Orwell's 1984 with a dash of the Decameron for piquancy.

Composer: Katya Pine Status: performance-ready Available: libretto, score, midi

UNBROKEN: The Anthemic Life of Milada Horakova

In 1950, Milada Horakova, champion of women's rights and democracy, became one of the first victims of the Czech Communists' scripted show trials. She refused to follow the script.



Composer: Jane K Status: in-progress Available: libretto, music sketches

—Fringe-Length Alt. Operas—

LAST AMERICAN DREAM: a Docurequiem for Bill Cosby



Who will ever forget the sight of Bill Cosby, "America's Dad," being marched off to prison in handcuffs? *Last American Dream* recounts the fall of a beloved comic actor through the eyes of a grandmother hard-pressed to explain Trump-era social ruptures to a new breed of girl born in their wake. The audience is left to ponder the fallen icon's tarnished legacy and to decide for themselves if anything of value can be salvaged from it.

Composer: Carlos José Castro Status: in-progress Available: libretto and studio recording of first 30 minutes

VAMPIRESA, the Cabaret Opera

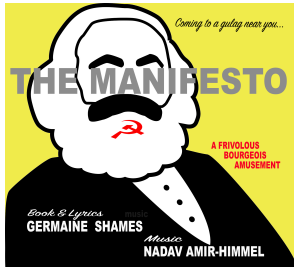
Vampiresa, an enigmatic outsider, carries a terrible secret. Newly arrived in an unnamed city, she attracts the attention of a lonely young painter. Vampire and human fall in love. Vampiresa, desperate to overcome her innate bloodlust, seeks a cure — to no avail. The painter wavers between self-preservation and surrender, but cannot long resist. He weds her. To what extent are we the masters of our desires, acts and lives? Can love and lust, light and darkness, coexist? Is love all-powerful?



Composer: Noah Potter Status: performance-ready Available: libretto, score, five demo recordings

—Hybrid Opera/Musical Theatre One-Act—

THE MANIFESTO: a Musical Re-Imagining of the Drafting of the World's Second Most Influential Book



The Communist Manifesto has been called "the most influential book after the bible." Yet, in 1848, Marx and Engels were two scrappy, unknown pamphleteers speculating about a new form of society whose character and reach could barely be fathomed. In their shadow were Jenny Marx, a Baroness, and the Marx's peasant housekeeper, Helene Demuth, whose contribution history has conveniently overlooked — until now.

Composer: Nadav Amir-Himmel Status: performance-ready Available: libretto, score, midi, [full performance video](#)