

Bio: Richard Marriott

Richard Marriott has been active as a composer and musician for over thirty years. He has composed extensively for film, television, dance, theater, opera, installations and video games, encompassing styles ranging from avant garde to commercial mainstream. He is founder and artistic director of the Club Foot Orchestra, the premiere ensemble for live music performance with silent film. This ensemble, originally an experimental night club act, began to perform with film in 1987 and now has a repertoire of ten feature-length scores which have been performed at venues such as Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Smithsonian Institution, World Financial Center, NuArt Theater (Santa Monica) and Castro Theater (San Francisco).

His new opera "Divide Light" was presented in August 2008 at the Montalvo Center of the Arts in California. This 85 minute work, conceived by visual artist Lesley Dill with text by Emily Dickinson, was scored for a forty voice chorus, three operatic soloists and string quartet. "godmachine" was presented at California State University Hayward in June 2002. This seventy minute opera, written for four soloists, speaker, Balinese gamelan, string trio, erhu, yangqing, electric guitar and bass, incorporated interactive electronics to allow the audience to determine some elements of the plot. "King Lan Ling" is an opera based on an ancient Chinese legend for four soloists, chorus, Chinese instruments and symphony orchestra with libretto by Xu Ying and Dong Fangfang. It has yet to be produced.

Composing credits also include music for the feature film "Rising Sun" (Phil Kaufmann, director), the score for the Academy Award nominated documentary "Silver into Gold", music for the CBS series "The Twisted Tales of Felix the Cat" also the score for "Legong, Dance of the Virgins" (scored for Balinese gamelan, string quartet, clarinet and trumpet). Among his silent scores which are often broadcast on television are "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari", "Nosferatu" and "Sherlock Jr." . He has composed the scores for numerous independent films including "Love Suicide" (David Teague, director) "The Collectors" (Ian Day, director) and "Red Terror on the Amber Coast" (Ken Gumbert, director).

He was employed as a staff composer for Atari Games and contributed thousands of short compositions for Leapfrog Toys. He has worked with California-based choreographer Della Davidson on six productions since 1991 and most recently collaborated and performed with choreographers Yoshiko Chuma ("Page Out of Order") and Yin Mei ("City of Paper"). Works for theater include "Encarnation" (2002) with shadow puppet master Larry Reed, "Happy Hour Becomes Electra" (1991) and "University of Alaska" (2004), both musical theater collaborations with Los Angeles based Overtone Theater, and music for three California Shakespeare Company productions.

He is a performing musician specializing in wind instruments, especially trombone and Balinese suling. He has performed with the Residents, Snakefinger, Violent Femmes, the Himalayas, the Brazilian Girls, Gamelan Sekar Jaya and Gamelan Dharma Swara, in addition to his shows with Club Foot Orchestra.

His work has been supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, Rockefeller Foundation, New York State Music Fund and Meet the Composer. His teachers include Pauline Oliveros, Dominick Argento, Paul Fetler, Eric Stokes, Ali Akbar Khan, Masayuki Koga and Serge Tchrepnin.