DENNIS KAM

OPERA 101

Opera 'spoofa' in one act (2009)

Opera 101 is comprised of lighthearted and simple abstractions of operatic rituals and gestures. I intend it to be a happy jaunt (postmodern romp, if you wish) to the operatic genre, running the gamut from the silly to the serious (sentimentality or sublimity, if so perceived). With no storyline in mind, I decided to create the 'libretto' myself. It was partly conceived during the composing of the music - essentially evolving and integrating with musical elements: nothing profound – just fun.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

OCTAVIO Baritone

QUESTA Mezzo-Soprano

ARIETTA Soprano

ARIATU Tenor

Synopsis

On stage off to a side - only Arietta (not in the spotlight) sitting.

Octavio walks on stage 'listening' to the music. He sings, respects, and adores the octave (*The Lovely Octave*)

Questa wanders onto stage puzzled and seeking answers (Where Am I?). Octavio answers her questions.

Arietta (in spotlight) stands facing the audience and sings (*This is the Aria*) with sincerity and passion.

Ariatu hurries onto stage and sings (Only Love). Everyone happily joins in to conclude the opera.

Prelude



The Lovely Octave



Where Am I?



This is the Aria



Only Love



