

ROBERT ELLSWORTH FENG

Librettist

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SELECTED OPERAS / STAGE WORKS

Salmo <u>Scoring</u> : 4 Act Sci-Fi Tragedy [S-Mz(2)-T-Br-B, Coro], Full Orchestra (90-120min) <u>Synopsis</u> : In 2096, six astronauts embark on an odyssey to reach the nearest habitable planet to save humanity, doomed to climate change back on Earth. Their mission and sanity are tested over the course of several generations. <u>Development History</u> : <i>Libretto Reading (Summer 2024), Prologue workshopped at Brown University in February 2026. Orchestral workshop planned for the 2026/27 Academic Year.</i>	<u>Composed by</u> Nick Bentz	2027
Extinction Event <u>Scoring</u> : Opera [S(2)-Mz-T-Br-B], Chamber Orchestra (1 hr, 20 min) <u>Synopsis</u> : The last members of extinct animals roam the afterlife when they encounter Lif - the last human. Can the endlings forgive the species responsible for their extinction, and what will happen when they are given a second chance at life at a great cost? <u>Development History</u> : Libretto and Score Samples complete (2025), Set for PV workshop at Seagle Festival (Fall 2028).	<u>Composed by</u> Meilina Tsui	2028
Knight of El Dorado/Caballero de El Dorado <u>Scoring</u> : Opera [S/Mz(4)-T(2)-B, Coro], Full Orchestra (60 min) <u>Synopsis</u> : A Robin Hood type vigilante named Júpiter is sent on a quest to find the mythical El Dorado to save his younger brother from a tyrant's fury. (Libretto written in both English and Spanish) <u>Development History</u> : Commissioned by Performing Arts Laboratory in collaboration with Bloomington Opera.	<u>Composed by</u> Yangfan Xu, Sarah Wallin Huff & Linda Uran	2026
Thanatography <u>Scoring</u> : One Act Opera part of a greater 'Patchwork Opera' collection [6 Treble Voices], Chamber Orchestra (20-30 min) <u>Synopsis</u> : Five sisters mourn the recent passing of their mother on Thanksgiving Day, bringing out unique coping mechanisms. <u>Development History</u> : Originally commissioned by the Kennedy Center & the Washington National Opera Institute. To be premiered Fall, 2026 <i>solely</i> with the Washington National Opera Institute until further notice.	<u>Composed by</u> Josfah Garza	2026
Chew on This (Silk Roads Trilogy) <u>Scoring</u> : Political Satire Operetta [S-T-B/Br], Pierrot Ensemble (15 min) <u>Synopsis</u> : TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew testifies at a Senate hearing before Sen. Tom Cotton when a time loop forces him to answer the same absurd and bigoted questions over and over. (Part of a cycle of three one-act operas about Asians in American) <u>Development History</u> : Commissioned for the CAYA Festival with Lyric Opera of KC/No Divide KC (2024).	<u>Composed by</u> Yunfei Li	2024
Having Guests for Dinner <u>Scoring</u> : 1 Act Horror/Comedy Opera [S-T-B], Chamber Orchestra (1 hr, 20 min) <u>Synopsis</u> : Marcus and Laura attend a dinner-for-three at Christoph Aberfeld's house, but begin to suspect their host is a killer cannibal. <u>Development History</u> : Premiere with New Opera West (2020, 2021), Hartford Opera Theater (2021), Orchestra Workshop with SUNY Fredonia Hillman Opera/WNYCO/Kor Productions (2024, Commission), Central Washington University (2024/25), winner of the 8 th Annual Fresh Squeezed Ounce of Opera (FSOO) Competition and performed at One Ounce Opera's July 2026 Festival with positive reviews.	<u>Composed by</u> Nick Bentz	2021/24

TRAINING & EDUCATION

OPERA FELLOW, PERFORMING ARTS LAB	2025-2027
RESIDENT ARTIST LIBRETTIST, WIELDFLOWER ARTS	2025
LIBRETTIST, ALLIANCE FOR NEW MUSIC-THEATRE	2024
LIBRETTIST PANEL SPEAKER, OPERA AMERICA CONFERENCE	2024-2025
LIBRETTIST, REALLY SPICY OPERA: LIBRETTIST WORKSHOP	2024
LIBRETTIST, REALLY SPICY OPERA: ARIA INSTITUTE (SCI-FI EDITION)	2024
LIBRETTIST FELLOW, LYRIC OPERA OF KC/NO DIVIDE KC: CAYA FESTIVAL	2024
MM VOICE PERFORMANCE, MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC	CLASS OF 2020
BM VOICE PERFORMANCE, PEABODY CONSERVATORY	CLASS OF 2018

REFERENCES

BASIL CONSIDINE, REALLY SPICY OPERA
SUSAN GALBRAITH, ALLIANCE FOR NEW MUSIC-THEATRE
NEAL LONG, LYRIC OPERA OF KC
NICK BENTZ, COMPOSER
FELIX JARRAR, COMPOSER
MEILINA TSUI, COMPOSER
<i>If you would like to contact any of these people, please reach out to me at robertefeng@gmail.com and I will connect you with them.</i>