

SIDARTH JAYADEV, “*The Daedal*”
2009 NSBA Student Electronic Music Composition Talent Search

My name is Sidarth Jayadev. I am 11 years old and live with my parents in Saratoga, California. I have been studying Musicianship and Composition for four years in the Preparatory division at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. I have been studying Western violin for 7 years and simultaneously studying Indian vocal music and violin for 5 years. I am a student of the John Adams Young Composer’s Program at Crowden Music School, Berkeley, California.

I started composing music at the age of 5 on the piano. I get ideas for compositions while I am playing piano or violin. I have composed string quartets, trios for piano, violin and cello and duets for two violins. My compositions have been played during recitals at the San Francisco Conservatory. I composed music for the opera "The Nightingale" which was staged at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music in 2006.

In my compositions I always include Indian Carnatic ragas to portray mood and provide different textures.

The title “The Daedal” is a Greek word for a maze. My inspiration for this composition comes from an excerpt of my own fiction story about a “Mystery of a Maze”. The opening theme of my composition is an introduction where a group of friends are exploring and marveling at the intricacies of a maze. As the friends go through the maze, the music moves from happiness to gloom as the group is unable to find their way out.

From rehearsal letter “C” to letter “D”, the music evokes fright. At letter “C”, the Indian Carnatic Raga “Malahari”, a mystifying raga, incorporates syncopated short-note values to portray gloom. The instruments that I use to portray this thought are the 1st Violin and the Flutes. The “Malahari” raga has a unique scale. The “Arohanam” which is same as “ascending scale”, is “Sa, Ri, Ma, Pa, Da, Sa.” The “Avarohanam”, or “descending scale”, is “Sa, Da, Pa, Ma, Ri, Sa.” In musical notation it can be translated as “D, E, F, A, B (flat), D.”

The music at rehearsal letter “D” uses short pizzicato textures to intensify the fearful mood, which I wrote in the key of D melodic minor in a “Phrygian” scale. The instruments used in this section are Flutes, Oboes, Clarinets, Bassoons, Horns, Trumpet, Timpani, 1st and 2nd Violins, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. Near the end of the piece, joyous music returns, as the friends see the light at the end of the maze.

The original theme is repeated towards the end all over again for the newcomers to experience the maze.