



LAUREL PROJECT

VENTURA COLLEGE FACULTY
& GUEST ARTIST CONCERT SERIES

BLOOD MONEY: THE RISE AND FALL OF ELIZABETH HOLMES



A CONVERSATION WITH COMPOSER JOCELYN HAGEN

How do you write an opera? Jocelyn Hagen discusses her commission with Ventura College Opera. Program includes performances of several of her compositions.

MONDAY
APRIL
13
12:00 PM
2 0 2 6



VC PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER
YUNKER AUDITORIUM
4700 LOMA VISTA RD
VENTURA, CA 93003

FREE ADMISSION

A CONVERSATION WITH JOCELYN HAGEN

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026 / 12:00 PM
VC PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, YUNKER AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM

"*Shoua and the Northern Lights Dragon*"Jocelyn Hagen

Jocelyn Hagen, narrator
Suzanne Duffy, flute
Kimaree Gilad, oboe
Sarra Hey-Folick, clarinet
Nicholas Akdag, bassoon
Jon Titmus, horn

"*The Flower of the Field*" from *Songs of Fields and Prairies*.....Hagen

Kimaree Gilad, oboe
Sio Tepper, piano

Selections from the opera *Blood Money*.....Hagen

Brent Wilson, conductor
Sio Tepper, piano

"Can't Resist"

Christina Ramsey, mezzo-soprano (Elizabeth Holmes)
Brian Hotchkin, baritone (Sunny Balwani)

"Before it's time" (versions I & II)

Christina Ramsey, mezzo-soprano (Elizabeth Holmes)

VOCALISTS:

Luvi Avendano*	Todd Honeycutt**	Taryn Lakes	Hannah Rezendes
Axel Bermudez	Brian Hotchkin*	Martin Nucico	Dorothy Schaefer
Olivia Barker*	Miles Jefferson	Christina Ramsey*	Mariah Young
Matthew Cho			

COMPOSER BIOGRAPHY

Jocelyn Hagen composes music that has been described as “simply magical” (Fanfare Magazine) and “dramatic and deeply moving” (Star Tribune, Minneapolis/St. Paul). She is a pioneer in the field of composition, pushing the expectations of musicians and audiences with large-scale multimedia works, electro-acoustic music, dance, opera, and publishing. Her first forays into composition were via songwriting, still very evident in her work.

The majority of her compositions are for the voice: solo, chamber and choral. Her melodic music is rhythmically driven and texturally complex, rich in color and deeply heartfelt. In 2023 her opera *The Song Poet*, written with Hmong writer Kao Kalia Yang, premiered with Minnesota Opera, and sold out their run over six months prior to the premiere date. In 2019 she celebrated the premiere of her multimedia symphony *The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci*, which includes video projections created by a team of visual artists, highlighting da Vinci’s spectacular drawings, inventions, and texts. The work has already been performed over fifty times across the United States, including Canada, Sweden, Croatia, and England.

Hagen describes her process of composing for choir, orchestra and film simultaneously in a Tedx Talk given at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, now available on YouTube. Hagen’s commissions include Voces8, Conspirare, the Minnesota Opera, the Minnesota Orchestra, the International Federation of Choral Music, True Concord Voices and Orchestra, the American Choral Directors Associations of Minnesota, Georgia, Connecticut and Texas, the North Dakota Music Teachers Association, Cantus, the Boston Brass, the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra and the St. Olaf Band, among many others.

Her work is independently published through JH Music, as well as through Graphite Publishing, G. Schirmer, EC Schirmer, Fred Bock Music Publishing, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, and Boosey and Hawkes.

For more complete bio and more information visit:
www.jocelynhagen.com / [@jocelynhagenmus](https://www.instagram.com/jocelynhagenmus)



Ventura College's Department of Performing Arts prepares students to pursue careers in music, theatre, and dance. Students have the opportunity to study with a highly qualified and recognized faculty in a variety of ensembles including Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Music Ensembles, College Chorus and Singers, VC Musical Theatre & Opera, Jazz Band, VC Dance, and VC Theatre.

For more information, visit our website:

www.venturacollege.edu/performing-arts

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, Apr-23 / 7 PM
VC CHAMBER MUSIC
Mission San Buenaventura

Friday, Apr-24 / 7 PM
VC CHOIRS
Mission San Buenaventura

SPECIAL THANKS:

Luca Lewis, Anthony Mansueto, Brent Wilson, Gabriel Aragon, Cecelia Arias, Jamie Birkett, Matthew Cho, Mark Holmstrom, David Howarth, Brian Hotchkin, Anne Paul King, Sandy Mason, Janeene Nagaoka, Paloma Salas, Tyson Sauthoff, Vanessa Stotler, Laura Solis-Teteris, Jeanne Tanner

SUPPORT



If you would like to help support programs like these, please consider making a donation to the Ventura College Foundation Music Fund. Gifts in any amount are a vital part of promoting Ventura's homegrown talent. You can donate online using the QR code.