

Magpie's Song

By Zeph Siebler

April 17-19, 2025

Who?

Writer/Music Director: Zeph Siebler

Director: Tomás Fuchs-Lynch

Music Director: Yoshi Kimura

Producer: Nava Feder

Stage Manager: Nava Feder

Please contact nava.feder@yale.edu with any questions

What?

Magpie's Song is an operatic pop musical centered around three folk tales from Chinese mythology. Every night, the audience chooses the order in which these stories are brought to life on stage. In "Ten Suns", an archer comes out of retirement to stop a catastrophic drought, only to find himself caught at the center of a struggle for the chance at eternal life. In "A Festival in Conflagration", a painter conjures up memories of a deadly fire in her newest painting, calling into question who really lit the match, and what it means to be a monster. In "River of Stars", a mortal spends a day with the daughter of the Celestial Emperor, and they have to decide what's worth sacrificing to live out a star-crossed love. The piece as a whole explores what it means to tell a story, and the beguiling and human way a powerful story can wash over what is real.

When and Where?

Auditions: October 2nd, 6:00-10:00 PM and October 4th, 4:00-8:00 PM

Location: WLH 207

Rehearsals: October 2024-April 2025

Staged concert: December 9th, Time TBD

Tech week: April 13th-16th

Shows: April 17th-19th, 7:30 PM

Time Commitment

We want this to be a low-stress, fun, and efficient process for everyone. Rehearsals will run approximately 2-3 hours per week. Rehearsal time will increase as we approach tech week. Performers are expected to be available for all of tech week (February 16-19) and shows (February 20-22).

Character Descriptions

The cast is composed of 7 actors, who play various characters in the tales Magpie tells to the audience.

Magpie- The storyteller, plays the beast. Folksy alto, Gb3-D5. (Already cast.)

Moon- Plays the archer's wife and the painter. Mixy soprano, Ab3-F5.

Star- Plays Vega and the firework vendor. Light alto, A3-D5.

Death- Plays the archer's apprentice and the lead hunter. Rock tenor (if possible, otherwise low alto), D3-Bb4.

Justice- Plays the archer and the old hunter. Operatic baritenor, Bb2-G4.

Judgement- Plays Altair and the young hunter. Light baritone, Bb2-F4.

Tower- Plays the Celestial Emperor and the builder. Bass, F2ish-Eb4.

Audition Expectations

Auditions will be 15 minute time slots, which you can sign up for on our [YCA page](#). Please try to arrive a few minutes before your slot time to check in.

Once you get into the audition room, having filled out the [audition form](#):

- We'll warm you up, and check your range.
- You'll sing a 16-32 bar cut of a song of your choice that showcases your abilities as a musical storyteller. We strongly encourage you to bring in a song from the musical theater canon, but bring in whatever material you're most comfortable with, and that best shows your personality as a performer. You can bring in sheet music for an accompanist, or a backing track, as long as you're accompanied somehow.

Additionally, optionally:

- We'll teach you an ~8 bar cut of music from the show. You'll perform it, we'll give you some notes, and you'll perform it again.

Auditions will be held in person. If you require any sort of accommodations (video audition, etc.) please reach out to nava.feder@yale.edu and we will be more than happy to figure something out.