

## **Workshop Forum: Making New Music-Theater**

## **Description:**

From Monday May 6, 2019 through Wednesday May 15, Nautilus Music-Theater in St Paul MN, will host a series of open rehearsals and presentations exploring the creation of new music-theater; works that are stretching the boundaries of conventional opera and musicals into a new form of musical story-telling. The sessions are open to interested artists and the general public.

The Forum is built around HURRICANE, a new music-music-theatre piece being developed by Nautilus, created by librettist Cory Hinkle and composer Carla Patullo, both based in Los Angeles. It tells the story of a woman in South Texas who has refused to leave her home after the devastating impact of a hurricane. A small child floats by, and discovering that she is a deaf-mute, the woman resolves to return the young girl to her home. On the way she encounters mysterious characters, and comes to grip with the fact that she has never forgiven herself for the death of her own daughter years earlier. The story is told in a neo-Brechtain style, pushing the limits of naturalism into a less linear and more poetic presentation. It is scored for six Nautilus singer-actors, guitar, cello, and piano; the musical style ranges from country twang to operatic vocalism.

## **Project personnel:**

- Ben Krywosz (Director/Dramaturg)
- Cory Hinkle (Librettist)
- Carla Patullo (Composer)
- Victoria Petrovich (Scenic/Costume Designer)
- Jerry Rubino (Music Director)

## **Elements of the Forum:**

- Open rehearsals and developmental sessions for HURRICANE
- Two public rehearsed readings of HURRICANE in Nautilus' "Rough Cuts" worksin-progress program, including dramaturgical commentary by Ben Krywosz
- Presentations by Victoria Petrovich on incorporating design elements into the developmental process, offered with commentary from Ben Krywosz
- Presentations by Jerry Rubino on the role of the Music Director in developing new work, offered with commentary from the performers
- Two presentations by the creative team for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, sponsored by the University of Minnesota; one before the public performances and one after. These will focus on the larger field of new musictheater, with HURRICANE offered as an example of truly American musical storytelling.