

## Influences

### ❖ Overture to Loreum;

Influenced by the music of *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*.

- Sondheim uses color and timbre combined with stark dissonances to create his world of *Sweeney Todd*.
- I borrowed his use of major and minor seconds, along with texture and color to write my Overture.
- Sondheim's "Organ Prelude" directly influenced my Overture through its fluctuation in color and instrumentation.

### • Differences in the pieces include:

- Form—Sondheim opens with an original organ prelude that sets the stage for the colors and harmonies to come. I, however, choose to start with the music that will be used as underscore music for the production.

### ❖ "Innocence:" ;

"Innocence" was influenced by the music of *Les Miserable*.

- Claude-Michel Schonberg used lush harmonies, dramatic stage setting, and accessible melodies to create his 19th century world.
- I borrowed his use of lyrical melodies and clever script/scene design.
- To capture the dramatic effect that he gained in "Castle On a Cloud", I chose to begin *Loreum* with a scene that includes a choir of young boys.

### • Differences in the pieces include:

- Composition Style—Schonberg uses flowing melodies with atmospheric background in "Castle on a Cloud," while I use homophony and counterpoint in "Innocence."

### ❖ "Across The Sea":

Influenced by the music of *Les Miserable's* .

- "On My Own" influenced "Across the Sea" in concept and form. Feeling of both main female leads are similar in nature.
- "On My Own" starts with a recitative, as does "Across the Sea." In both songs, the main theme is presented first, with verses and episodes mixed in-between.

### ❖ Differences in the pieces include:

- Color/Timbre—"On My Own" is supported by a high-pitch ostinato theme. "Across the Sea" is much more grounded in the bass, the accompaniment more of a countersubject.

### ❖ "Within My Dreams

Influenced by the music of *Rent*.

- Jonathan Larson used popular forms and conceptions, along with harmony to create his musical of young lovers.
- "Within My Dreams" borrowed the concept of learning from the past and bettering the future from Larson's "One Song Glory."

### • Differences in the pieces include:

- Everything, excluding the ideas behind the text.

# Loreum: A Musical in the Making



## The goal in mind was to write an original musical.

By Mary Webster

## Plot Synopsis

### ❖ Act I:

- Scene 1 – Boys from Loreum and boys from unknown Western country sing *Innocence*; a song about the affect of war on everyone.
- Scene 2 – Opens with *She Will Be*; a song glorifying Anna, the future queen of Loreum. Anna and her Mother argue about Anna's impending marriage.
- Scene 3 – Anna sings a soliloquy, *Across the Sea*, which is swiftly followed by Anna swimming out to sea to save Thompson.
- Scene 4 – Officers on a military battle cruiser discuss radar malfunctions and the crashing of Thompson's plane.
- Scene 5 – On the beach, Anna is trying to revive the unconscious Thomson when her mother appears and reprimands her. The mother sings *Within My Dreams*, which then moves into the revival of Thompson and the reprise of *Within My Dreams*.
- Scene 6 – Thompson and Anna sing a duet together, relating live and cultural experiences. This is the scene in which Thompson and Anna fall in love.



### ❖ Act II:

- Scene 1 – Admiral aboard the military battle ship decides to follow the oil trail in the ocean from what they think is Thompson's airplane.
- Scene 2 – Anna tells her best friend Sarah about Thompson. Soon after Anna leaves for her royal obligations as princess, leaving Thomson in the care of Sarah.
- Scene 3 – Sarah sing *Place Called Home*, which is about Sarah's longing to visit anywhere outside of Loreum. Thompson declares his love for who we assume is Anna.
- Scene 4 – Thompson meet Zeus, a faun like creature, who directs Thompson in the direction to find Anna.
- Scene 5 – Thompson and Zeus watch the royal parade. Anna, Thompson, and Sarah sing a small Medley of melodies to convey their individual mindset and perception.
- Scene 6 – The military vessel finds Loreum. Sarah tells Anna that she likes Thompson and wished to be with him. Anna and Thompson sing short duet confessing their longing for each other.

### ❖ Act III: In Progress



❖ "Overture": The first piece in the production, it will begin before the curtain opens, and end several minutes after the curtain has opened. *Loreum* sets the atmosphere for the musical. Unlike some musicals where the overture is a collage of songs in the production, *Loreum* is a three section piece ( A B C) that uses music that will become incidental music further on in the production.

❖ "Innocence": The opening vocal number is sung by an boys choir. "Innocence" is a reflective piece that takes place in the future, following the story's end. Placing this piece at the beginning instead of the end creates a dramatic effect, and also foreshadows the ending of the production. Accompanied by a small string ensemble, it draws heavily on the rules of Renaissance and Baroque counterpoint.

❖ "Across the Sea": The main female lead, Anna, sings this song out of desperation for freedom. Based on the form of modern musical ballads, it starts with a recitative which flows smoothly into the main theme or chorus of the song.



❖ [www.laceylady.com](http://www.laceylady.com)

❖ "Within My Dream": After Anna rescues Thompson on the beach, Ann's mother finds her. In a soliloquy, Anna's mother sings about her similar experience of finding a man washed up onto Loreum and how it affected her. With a sweeping accompaniment and dramatic introduction, the song puts the main theme through many modulations before the double bar.

