

"DIAL: AN OPEROCK" URGES SLEEPWALKING PUBLIC TO WAKE UP, SUPPORT LIVE MUSIC AND "COME OUT & PLAY"

NEW LIBRETTO/BOOK FOR THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS AVAILABLE

"Dial: An Operock," a new studio recording, tells an apocalyptic urban fable involving a community of sleepwalkers, a parrot and a young man's quest to find his purpose in life: getting people excited about live music. Written by San Francisco composer Mark Smotroff, with newly completed libretto/book co-authored by playwright Dave Barton, the work is a reaction to real world local and national events, from rehearsal studio shut downs, to recent developments such as the announced closing of legendary rock club Maxwells in Hoboken, NJ. Available on iTunes, Amazon and other major download sites, the entire musical can be streamed for free at <http://www.dialthemusical.com>. A deluxe CD plus high resolution DVD package is available from CDBaby: <http://bit.ly/14OLJZQ>

Presented as a 'concept album,' Smotroff explains: "I want people to hear the score first, allowing it to stand on it's own, much in the way that *Tommy*, *Chess* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* were issued as studio creations in their initial phases. We've received encouraging feedback thus far from those who have heard it and subsequently read the Book (currently subtitled "Come Out and Play")."

"Dial: An Operock presents the battle between career aspiration and the crippling fears that keep many from pursuing their life dreams," said Grammy Award-winning composer, producer and co-founder of The West Coast Songwriters' Association, Michael Silversher. "Mark reached out for my help with the Book and I am pleased to be involved in its evolution. His score shines and the musical's cautionary tale is right for our times: bringing light to a bleak world of sleepwalkers, the hero -- the one who can change the world -- ultimately proves he is indeed most awake and up to the task with music and determination his only ammunition."

Inspired by true stories and actions of people in Smotroff's universe, "Dial: An Operock" offers a friendly but stern warning to the millions of people leading isolated lifestyles, to embrace the here and now! "Don't wait for tomorrow to fulfill your dreams," Smotroff adds. "Pursue them and enjoy every moment while you can."

Playwright Dave Barton added "When Mark first approached me to work on the libretto, I was uncertain until I heard the score and then I got really impressed. Working together has been a joy and we have fleshed out his vision into a compelling tale with a positive message that should translate well to the stage."

The Story...

Bobby is a disenfranchised young adult of today who has traveled the road most traveled by going to college, graduating with massive school loan debt and driven to establish an emotionally unsatisfying business career. In an apocalypse of the mind, Bobby awakens from his work-sleep-eat rat-race existence to a world seemingly in turmoil; Bobby sees those around him as zombie-like somnambulists. He begins a quest to find out what happened, armed only with a small traveling guitar, a backpack including a notebook of song ideas and vague memories of better times past. Along the way he discovers his purpose in life while meeting many characters including Dial, a wise, smart-talking parrot named by local children for his sundial-like crest. Ultimately, Bobby finds that music is his salvation as he rallies the sleepwalkers to wake up from their repetitive existence.

To view the new promotional video for Dial: An Operock, please visit:

<http://youtu.be/dlmgSLuBCzU>

To request a perusal copy of the Book/ Libretto for Dial: An Operock (subtitled "Come Out and Play"), please write to dialthemusical@gmail.com

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About Dave Barton

Dave Barton is a seasoned writer, director and producer for musical theatre and live staged entertainment. A graduate of the Juilliard School of Music, Barton has directed community, regional and professional theatre including serving as Artistic Director for three theatre companies. Having written more than 20 musicals, Barton has 10 titles currently in publication with worldwide productions occurring annually. Notable is an award-winning musical version of "Tom Sawyer," which has been produced in nearly every state and on every continent. His musical "Earthlings!" received a special citation from the Environmental Protection Agency. Barton is working on three scripts currently. He also teaches Master Classes in Playwrighting.

About Mark Smotroff

“Dial: An Operock” is a new rock opera by Mark Smotroff released via his California-based band / music collective known as “ing.” Smotroff’s music has received strong national and local support, with several songs used in TV and film including *Smallville*, *Men In Trees*, the documentary *24 Hours on Craigslist* and others. ing received Best of the Bay type awards from *SF Weekly*, *The San Francisco Bay Guardian* and *San Francisco Magazines* before becoming a predominantly studio based group.

For more information on Dial visit URL: <http://www.dialthemusical.com>
Facebook: <http://fb.fanrx.com/ZwcejP>
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