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"Lovelution"

An Evolution of Self Through The Pains of Love

A Senior Project Submitted to

The Division of Arts of Bard College

by

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Annandale-on-Hudson, New York

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Of all the things in this life that I have experienced, the idea and practice of Love has always fascinated and frustrated me. From witnessing the many trials and tribulations of my parents' marriage and the other relationships around me I felt that this life-long journey of trying to find a life partner and have a healthy relationship with them was a top priority in terms of living a fulfilled life. Growing through the pains of my past and present relationships only reinforced this thought that these emotional connections were the most important aspect of happiness, not to mention that as a Jazz musician I noticed that the lyrics of nearly all Jazz standards pertain to the idea of Love, both emotionally and physically. The theme of nearly every Jazz standard or Blues tune focuses on Love. In fact my Fall Senior Concert expressed just that. Dedicated to my girlfriend, I used the genre's most common topic as a means to express the journey of loving her. For my Spring Concert, I intended to explore my journey of accepting her love and how that journey helped me grow all-around as a person. Unfortunately, due to the Great COVID-19 Pandemic of 2020 the concert turned into the album "Lovelution". modern Hip-Hop and Trap with Jazz influences, and despite the endless roadblocks of the Great COVID-19 Pandemic of 2020 I did. The resulting album was entitled "Lovelution"

"Lovelution" contains 7 songs detailing the growth that a man experiences by learning to accept the Love of a woman via the medium of modern Hip-Hop and Trap genre-based music with Jazz influences. In "Blue Heart" the man connects with a woman who understands the loneliness that he feels from and they begin a relationship. In "Spaceship" we see the first wave of doubt wash over the man due to the issues in his newfound relationship. "Lay With You" displays when the two reunite and resolve their issues. "Too Much" shows us the man's unfortunate mental spiral due to his inability to believe that he could be loved by someone else.

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In "Free" he is finally able to accept that love which leads to the final song "Classic", which displays the clarity of mind, self-love and self-confidence he has afterward. Though we may be loved by others, the journey of loving ourselves is completely separate, but having the love of others makes it so much easier.

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