

Art Collaboration

How to Create Art for Stories

There is a famous saying, “Necessity is the mother of invention”! That has certainly been true of the situation we all now find ourselves in. In that spirit, I have come up with a plan to create art together from a distance. As you may know, the Kanack School CAD Tour Group, has plans to travel to Finland next year where Andy and I have already started a CAD program similar to the one at KSMA. We were just starting to create several new improvised Fairy Tales to perform as part of that trip, when the decision to close the physical part of the school came. In order to continue to practice, our pianist Matthew has been hard at work creating and recording the basic themes and accompaniments for the group to work with. With the music well under way, I realized what a wonderful project it would be to create art to go with it as a kind of musical video rendition of these pieces. Thus began the art collaboration project!

In order to collaborate artistically, it will be necessary to communicate online with each other. To begin the process, I have drawn up an outline of the stories we are working on. They are old fairy tales that we have adapted to become dramatically staged, improvised productions. Typically, we would wear costumes and create simple sets to heighten the audience’s enjoyment of our productions. The art you create will take the place of our live productions which can’t take place at the moment. These may be shared with multiple online audiences.

To participate, please follow the guidelines here:

- Read the story you wish to illustrate (you may choose more than one).
- Decide on a scene or character you would like to create.
- Create a sketch of your idea.
- Take a picture of your sketch and send it to me at my email: alicekanack@aol.com. I will respond with comments or ideas
- Following our discussion, you will create the final version of your artwork for us to incorporate.
- If there are multiple versions of the scene or character you have created, you may be asked to create a different one.
- Feel free to draw as many sketches as you like. We would like to incorporate many of these!

I am excited to begin this project and look forward to receiving many sketches!

Thank you in advance for participating in this project!

Sincerely,

Alice Kanack

The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Act 1

Scene 1

The scene begins with a young boy, who is a shepherd, guiding his sheep up a hill above the town. He arrives at the top of the hill and the sheep scatter about to graze and rest. The boy soon grows bored. He runs down the hill towards the town shouting, "Wolf! Wolf!" The towns people quickly gather and follow him up the hill. When they reach the top, the boy turns and laughs at them. When they realize they have been tricked and all the sheep are safe, the people turn and go back down the hill, angrily shaking their heads at him.

Scene 2

Once again the shepherd boy is on the hill with his sheep. He plays a song to the sheep to stave off his boredom, but it doesn't work. So he decides to run down the hill again shouting, "Wolf! Wolf!" Once again the townspeople run up the hill to help the young boy, only to find they have been tricked once again. The boy laughs merrily at them as they go back down the hill. But this time a wise old man stays behind to warn him. "If you cry wolf again, people will not come! They will think you are lying and trying to trick them!" But the boy only laughs as the type man goes back down the hill.

Act 2

Scene 3

This scene opens with the boy asleep next to a tree. The sheep are gathered around him resting. Suddenly from behind the tree a large wolf appears. The sheep grow restless and begin to bleat in alarm waking up the boy. He stands up and scares the wolf back behind the tree, making the boy unaware of the true danger. For fun, he runs down the hill crying "Wolf! Wolf!" and yet again the villagers come. They quickly realize he is lying and go back down the hill.

Scene 4

Once again the boy has fallen asleep under the tree. The wolf appears suddenly from behind the tree and begins to chase the sheep. They all scatter except for one who is too frightened to move. As the lone sheep cries out, the boy awakens and quickly cries out "Wolf! Wolf!" But this time no-one comes. He faces the wolf with only his shepherd's stick. He calls out again and again as he attempts to defend the lone sheep and the wolf creeps closer and closer.

Finally the old man appears and, recognizing the danger, calls out for help. The town's people respond to the old man and quickly come to the aid of the boy. The wolf is chased away by the townspeople and the sheep are gathered. The grateful boy apologizes to the crowd and promises never to cry "Wolf!" again.

Hansel and Gretel



Act 1

Scene 1

The scene begins in the home of Hansel and Gretel. It is a poor woodcutters home. Hansel and Gretel's parents are sad because they are running low on food and they are worried. *(music is sad and in the unusual key of A Phrygian.)* Their conversation is interrupted by Hansel and Gretel who burst into the room in a joyful and playful manner. *(Music shifts to a waltz like theme in F major.)* Their mom finds them a small loaf of bread and sends them outside to play. After the children leave, the parents resume their worried conversation *(the music returns to the parents theme and music in A Phrygian.)*

Scene 2

This scene begins with Hansel and Gretel playing in their yard. Unfortunately, they soon grow bored and decide to go for a walk in the woods. As a precaution, they leave behind a trail of bread crumbs to help them find their way home. (the music begins on a happy note with the children's waltz theme in F major. However it begins to take on a menacing undercurrent as the children get farther from home.) As the scene ends, the mother appears in the doorway to call her children in for dinner only to find them gone.

Scene 3

This scene begins with the entrance of a beautiful magical bird. The bird dances happily about for a bit, then discovers the bread crumbs. She joyfully collects the bread crumbs following the trail of the children. Unfortunately this means the children can no longer find their way home as all of the bread has disappeared. *(The music of the bird is spritely and dance like in a related Lydian mode)*

Act 2

Scene 4

This scene takes place in the woods. Hansel and Gretel are desperately searching for the bread crumbs as it begins to grow dark. *(Their theme grows dark by modulating their waltz into the related minor key. There is a hint of the witches theme woven into this music even though she has not yet appeared.)* They stop to rest by a tree and fall fast asleep.

Scene 5

This scene opens showing a beautiful candy house which has appeared in the woods. Hansel and Gretel enter. They cautiously approach the candy house. As they are very hungry by now, they begin to pull some candy pieces off to eat. *(Music is magical and joyful.)* Suddenly the witch appears disguised as a sweet old lady. She greets them and invites them inside. *(music becomes a bit more creepy as the theme of the witch begins to play under the theme of the house.)* After a short conversation the scene ends with the children entering the house.

Scene 6

Back in the woods, the parents of Hansel and Gretel are desperately searching for their children. (Music is the parents theme).

Act 3

Scene 7

This scene takes place inside the witches house. There are 3 beds, a table, an oven, and some chairs. As the scene opens, the witch, still disguised as the old woman, is pulling some bread out of the oven. She serves it to the children along with some large lollipops from the house. As they eat they grow sleepy and the witch encourages them to rest on the beds. As soon as the children fall asleep, the witch casts a spell to place them in a cage. Then tired, the witch falls asleep in the third bed. (*Music for this part is a combination of happy children's music, becoming lullaby music, and finally giving way to spell music which is creepy.*)

Hansel and Gretel wake up, and realize they have been caught. They begin to cry and to call out for help. Suddenly the bird, who has heard their cries, appears. And being a magical bird, casts a spell to free the children! (*Music of the bird and spell music*).

Now free, the children sneak up on the witch and toss her in the oven. (*Music is tense building to a climax in which the witch plays a cadenza before disappearing.*)

The scene ends with the bird leading the children out of the house and back into the woods.

Scene 8

Back in the woods the children's parents are searching for them. The bird finds the parents and leads them to the where the children are asleep under a tree. The children awaken and are reunited with their parents. They hug and joyfully begin the trip back home. There they will live happily ever after.

The Frog Prince

Act One

Scene 1

The story opens with a pair of children playing with a golden ball. (*Music is light and bouncy in the key of C Major*). The prince enters (*in the key of D Dorian*). He steals the ball and chases away the children.

A wizard comes in and chastises the prince for being so mean to the children, but the prince ignores him. The wizard warns him again, and again the prince ignores him. The wizard then draws out his magic wand and puts a spell on him. He turns the prince into a frog and tells him he can only be turned back into a prince if he can convince a princess to give him a kiss. The wizard leaves and the frog sings a sad song. He then hops over to a well where he perches sadly.

A beautiful princess enters and finds the ball. She begins to play with it, throwing it higher and higher until it accidentally falls down the well. Dejected, she sits down on the side of the well. The frog, seeing her sadness, offers to retrieve the ball. He asks in return that he be allowed to visit her in her castle and share her dinner. She agrees and the frog goes down the well and retrieves the golden ball. But as soon as he gives her the ball she runs off, leaving him behind. The Frog Prince sings a sad song.

Act 2

Act two begins in the dining hall of the castle where the princess lives. There is a table and three chairs where the princess and her parents, the king and queen, have just begun their dinner. They have a friendly conversation about their day. Suddenly there is a knock on the door. The princess runs to answer it. She discovers it is the frog asking to be allowed in to share her dinner. She slams the door in his face and returns to her dinner. Once again there is a knock on the door, and the princess runs to answer it. Once again it is the frog prince asking to share her dinner. Again she denies him entrance and slams the door in his face.

When he knocks the third time however, the king decides to answer the door himself. He greets the frog and asks him to explain his story. When he learns that the princess has promised to share her dinner, he invites the frog in and offers the frog the princess's chair. The Frog refuses to take the princess's chair so she gratefully brings him one of his own. They share a lovely dinner after which the king invites the frog to share his daughters room for the night.

Act 3

Act three takes place in the princess's bedroom. The Princess gives the frog a pillow which he promptly perches on. The princess requests the frog sing her a song to help her fall to sleep. He agrees and sings her a lovely song. Just as she is about to fall asleep, the princess, who has been moved by the Frog Prince's many kindnesses, leans over and gives him a kiss on the cheek. She lays down and falls asleep.

The wizard appears and congratulates the Frog on his accomplishments. He raises his wand and turns him back into a prince! The princess awakens and is overjoyed to meet the prince who tells her the truth. They sing a love song together.

Act 4

Act four takes place in the dining hall of the castle. The king and Queen are at breakfast. The Prince and Princess enter and greet the King and Queen. All are overjoyed at the the match and agree that the couple will marry. But the Prince has one very important thing left to do. He takes the golden ball outside the castle, finds the young children he stole it from and returns it to them. The children gladly accept his apology and begin to play with the ball.