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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Singing and Russian Dialects

A thesis submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements
for the degree Master of Fine Arts

in

Theatre and Dance (Acting)

by

Emily Shain

Committee in charge:

Gregory Wallace, Chair
Ursula Meyer
Charles Oates
Manuel Rotenberg

2016

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The thesis of Emily Shain is approved and it is acceptable in quality and form for publication on microfilm and electronically:

Chair

University of California, San Diego

2016

DEDICATION

Dedicated to Barbara Getz and Paul Shain. Who raised this little girl to believe that she could be anything she wanted. So she became an actor; so that she'd have a chance to do it all.

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File 2. *Magda Arrive*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I must acknowledge the incredible faculty and administration of the UCSD Theatre and Dance Department. Thank you for loving me and shoving me along. Also my classmates- I am so lucky to have spent three years by your side.

ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

Singing and Russian Dialects

by

Emily Shain

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Dance (Acting)

University of California, San Diego, 2016

Professor Gregory Wallace, Chair

It was in my first year here, as I spent a dinner break concerned about how I could be “good” in my evening rehearsal, that I made a commitment to stand in the face of what scares me and walk straight towards the beast. It was a challenge I could never live up to before UCSD, where the pressure to survive had created a human and actor that lived safely. But on this evening, I looked at Galbraith and saw an opportunity to take the leaps I have always craved. My hope was that by being bold and brave in these halls, I could transform into the human I wished to be outside the building.

The more I challenged myself to make choices that scared me, the more joy I found in the leap. Yes, I was often missing the mark but I was also reaching new glorious heights.

If existing in the uncomfortable was the barometer for this new way of life, then there was no greater test than that of MOVERS AND SHAKERS. I felt sick to my stomach every day in rehearsal. However, three years in, I knew I had solid training as my foundation and two years of practice in being brave.

I could not have acted in MOVERS AND SHAKERS three years ago. The training that I have received, as well as the type of actor I have tricked myself into becoming, has created the type of artist and human I always hoped to be.