Zhiran Xu "Karen"

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EDUCATION

Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), Entertainment Technology Center (ETC), Pittsburgh, PA
> Master of Entertainment Technology, May 2021

College of the Holy Cross (HC), Worcester, MA
> Bachelor of Arts, Music and Computer Science, May 2019

University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland
> Study Abroad Semester, Spring 2018

SKILLS

Programming: Java, C++, Python, R, Matlab
Production: Scrum & Agile, Client Communication, Team Organization, Scheduling
Music Composition: Max/MSP, Avid Pro Tools, Logic Pro X, Adobe Audition, Audacity, MIDI Composition and Orchestration, Foley, Field Recording, advanced keyboard skills
Creativity & Production: Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office Suite
Language: Fluent Mandarin and English

ACADEMIC PROJECTS

Producer & Designer, **Commit 2 the Bits,** Entertainment Technology Center, Spring 2020
- Producer and Designer on an interdisciplinary five-member team
- Creating a full improvisational show on Twitch and a toolkit that helps run the show
- Maintaining project website, including weekly blog posts on development process
- Supporting the team in realizing our vision, communicating with faculty members, and keeping our scope

Producer & Sound Designer, **Building Virtual Worlds,** Entertainment Technology Center, Fall 2019
- Created interactive experiences in two-week cycles on multidisciplinary teams of 4-5 using different types of platforms including Vive (VR), Magic Leap (AR), Kinect and The CAVE
- Used Logic Pro X, Audacity, Adobe Audition to compose music and sound effects through MIDI composition, orchestration and Foley, create voice-overs and used field recordings for projects, and assisted with post-production mastering in Unity
- Directed group meetings with multidisciplinary teams, participated in communicative and iterative teamwork

Participant, **Weiss Summer Research Program in the Humanities, Social Sciences & Fine Arts, HC**
- Received grant to compose an original electronic score for Charlie Chaplin's "The Immigrant" (1917)
- Screened film with new score for the 2017 Research Symposium

EXPERIENCE & LEADERSHIP

Representative for ETC, **CMU Graduate Student Assembly (GSA),** January 2020 – Present
- Served as the bridge of information between GSA and ETC
- Attend, participate and vote in monthly General Body Meetings
- Manage departmental GSA Fund and organize activities for ETC students

Student Coordinator, **HC Gateways Orientation, International Student Orientation**, Fall 2018
Orientation Leader, **HC Gateways Orientation**, Worcester, MA, Summer and Fall 2016, Fall 2017
- Interviewed and selected candidates, planed, organized and implemented various changes to program
- Worked cooperatively with faculty, staff and students, supervised and acted as "group leader" to peers
- Trained 6 Orientation Leaders to facilitate Orientation programs for 23 international students in 2018
- Eased transitions, fostered sense of community and built lasting relationships with first-year students