THIS IS MY STAGE

Senior Capstone Presentation

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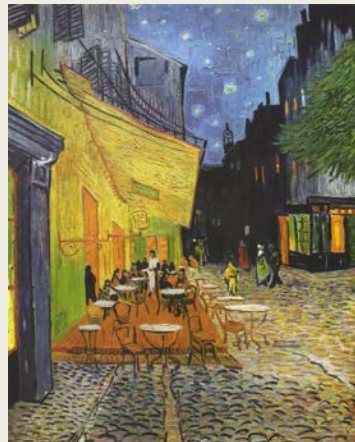
The Contemporary Music Center

Strand After Strand

He dips bristles into the water cup

And onto his brush he lifts paint   Pre-chorus

His hand raises to the canvas he's propped up

The layers of his colors combine without restraint   Chorus

He's spent years and years honing his craft   His swirls of paint hang around the world

And never quite receiving respect back   Who knows what would happen if he could be told

Would he have stayed to work and fight

Blue swirls to black in a starry sky   Or would he still have extinguished his own light

And sunflowers stand brightly in a vase

Boats in the water with people nearby   Blue swirls to black in a starry sky

Tables under darkness of space   And sunflowers stand brightly in a vase

Everyone thinks they understand   Boats in the water with people nearby

As they analyze strand after strand   Tables under darkness of space

As they analyze strand after strand   Nobody could ever understand

As they analyze strand after strand

Paint dries in the corner of the room   As they analyze strand after strand

And he forgets to eat again

He feels this is more like a tomb

Inspiration flashes can't convince his brain

Behind the Scenes

The Original Demo   The Live Show   The Original Recording

The Finished Mix

- Added flute, bass, and BGV's

- Changes & Arrangement

  - *Electric rather than acoustic*
  - *Drum set rather than cajon*

Superhero

I don't need a superhero

Red and yellow dots to come alive

I don't need a lack of fear, oh

Iron Man can hold on tight

I don't ask for perfection

Maybe a little more intention

'Cause whenever anyone calls

They always fight with their all

Fly right in

In the nick of time, oh

Show your strength

And make time slow

Be my partner in crime

I don't need a superhero

Yes, I know they have their flaws

But it always seems to work out in the end

Captains have the strength to fight through loss

And loyalty rarely bends

Pre-chorus

Chorus

You can't make time freeze

You'll never be

A hero, villain, sidekick,

So just please

Fly right in

In the nick of time, oh

Show your strength

And make time slow

Fly right in

In the nick of time, oh

Show your strength

And make time slow

Be my partner in crime

I don't need a superhero

Behind the Scenes

The Original Demo   The Live Show   The Original Recording

The Finished Mix

- Added synth strings and BGV's

- Lift of band in chorus

Verona

My shaking hands

Press tape against the cold stone

My note breathes with the wind

To send my call to you

Words never said

Face to face

But if we pretend

All will fall into place

Verona is ours tonight

Underneath all the lights

You've caught my eye

You've caught my eye

You know that we can't delay

Our time is slipping away

And this is our stage

This is our stage

Verona

I know I'm not a poet

But tonight I leave all of me

In this heartfelt note

On the heartbreak balcony

Pre-chorus

Chorus

I don't know if you'll ever see this

I don't know if you'd recognize my hand

Would you even know that it was me

A few minutes divide our visits

But it makes all the difference

Between our hearts

Between our minds

But I missed you by a mile

Chorus

Behind the Scenes

The Original Demo   The Live Show   The Original Recording

The Finished Mix

- Cowriting

- Added harp

- Panning

- Re-recording

  - *Drums*
  - *Piano*
  - *Vocals*

▶

Swan Song

My trunk slams on the last cardboard box

And it's humid and wet outside

The building's empty, we've checked the locks

It's a vagabond's life this time

But in all this coming and going

I'm figuring out what's worth knowing

Cause every hello ends in goodbye

And borders crossed are crossed once more

I miss when that town was mine

I'm waiting for my bags to hit the floor

But the sun is setting soon

I'll be home in June

Here's my last swan song

I can see the road signs passing by

As I'm speeding away from you

I think of the day we said goodbye

And how we never thought we could make it through

It's been so long since I've had one home

And that's all I want tonight

But that would mean we're nearing the end

And I don't want to say goodbye

Cause every hello ends in goodbye

And borders crossed are crossed once more

I miss when that town was mine

I'm waiting for my bags to hit the floor

But now I follow the moon

I'm coming home soon

Here's my last swan song

Behind the Scenes

The Original Demo   The Original Recording

The Finished Mix

- Added BGV's

Lessons Learned

- The process of recording and mixing

- How to teach myself skills

- Ear training

- How to write stronger songs
  - *Chordally*
  - *Melodically*
  - *Instrumental Parts*

- Stronger vocal performance

Questions?

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