

# *Buzz & Bud*

**Chamber Piece for Two Performers, Piano and optional String Bass  
and Percussion**

**Lyrics by Jason Charnesky**

**Music by Bruce Trinkley**

## **CAST**

**Bud, a flower. Medium or medium high voice**

**Buzz, a flying insect. Medium or medium high voice**

**National Opera Association Convention**

**1:00 p.m. Saturday, January 7**

**Christopher Meerdink, Robert Hansen, tenors**

**Bruce Trinkley, piano**

**James Connolly, string bass**

## **POET'S NOTE**

For a long time biologists have known about the peculiar relations maintained between some orchids and certain wasps. The flower is able to confound the hornet's senses so completely that he mistakes the scent of the blossom for the lineaments of his dream date, and these two utterly different organisms enter into a complex, cross-species dance of partnership. *Buzz & Bud* is all about that difficult partnership of commitment, as seen from the point of view of the hornet and the orchid. Since this is a piece about soul-mates rather than body parts, the roles of Bud and Buzz can be played by either male or female performers. But under no circumstances should either character be dressed up in a "bee suit" or "flower costume." Bud, the more conservative of our duo, is dressed in performance tails, a subtly orchidaceous shirt, and a small but elegant boutonnière. Buzz, imitating the hood he never belonged to, wears all the gear of his beloved hip-hop culture, and he almost pulls it off.

The model for the libretto was that sexy, gossipy medieval allegory *The Owl and the Nightingale*, while Buzz' attempt at rap was inspired by Lil' Kim, as heard on the remix of Puffy Daddy's "It's All About the Benjamins."

The composition of *Buzz & Bud* was made possible by a deeply appreciated residency at the Hambidge Center for the Creative Arts in Rabun Gap, Georgia in April and May, 2008.

Duration: approximately 21 minutes