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Robert Pollock

Composer and founder of Ebb and Flow Arts



COURTESY PHOTO

combine the music and the visuals provided with the scientific approach of the planetarium, fusing art and science," said Robert Pollock, a composer and the founder of Ebb and Flow Arts, a Maui-based organization that presents avantgarde programs throughout the islands.

Ebb and Flow has been presenting concerts in planetariums around the islands for several years, and with many local planetariums now equipped with the latest equipment, those productions can be presented in a full-dome, digital imagery, creating much sharper and more enhanced visuals than before, Pollock said.

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The new technology requires an "elaborate process" of mixing sight and sound, taking "a hundred hours" to make and resulting in huge computer files, he said.

The programs give local composers and artists a chance to work together, sometimes resulting in visuals that are abstract but at other times readily accessible.

Maui photographer and multimedia artist Peter Swanzy created the visual mix. Abstract painter Michael Takemoto, also of Maui, contributed visuals. Swanzy and Takemoto will be on hand to discuss their work, along with Seattle-based contributor Carlin

Ma, a photographer and pianist.

"We present them with the electronic music," Pollock said. "They come up with the visuals that match and synchronize with it."

Robert Wehrman, a composition professor at the University of Hawaii at Maui, and Takuma Itoh, a professor at UH-Manoa, contributed new musical compositions for the program. Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra concertmaster Iggy Jang will perform the violin part in Itoh's work "Stargazing," based on Itoh's experimentation with adding reverb effects to a Bach violin part.

"We always find pieces that work somehow," Pollock said. "It's a natural to join with light and starlight in this setting."





Steamed Fish Chinese Style with Choy Sum, Ginger, Cilantro, and Green Onions

