

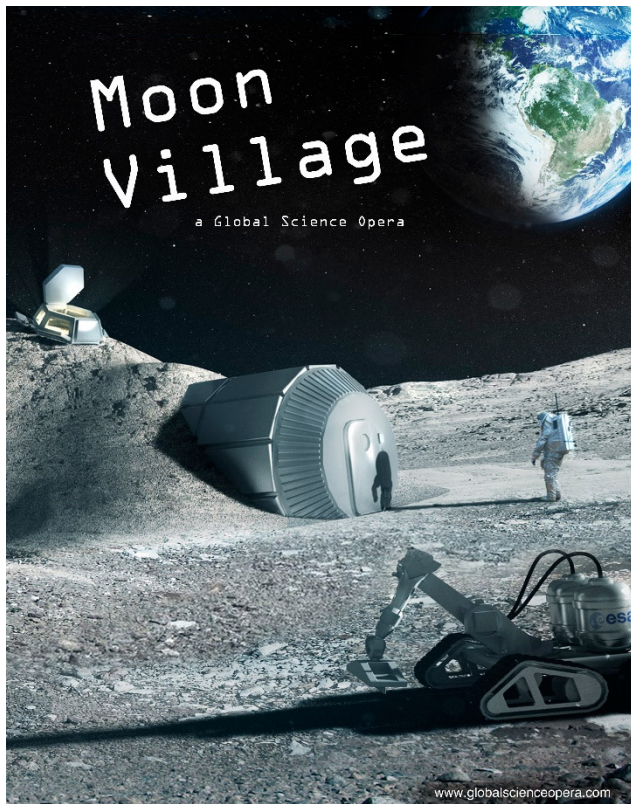
Moon Village – a Global Science Opera

(version #7 - not final)

(Characters, Synopsis, Scenes, Libretto and country-based participations)

1. General info

“Moon Village” is a Global Science Opera. 25 countries are involved in the 2017 production. Each country will produce 1 scene of approximately 2 minutes (if possible, scenes should be shorter). Each country decides if their performance will be live (on December 13th, at 16:00 CET/15:00 UTC) or if they want to pre-record and send a video. For those performing by video, it is recommended to perform in the pupils’ own language and add sub-titles in English. The performance will be broadcasted by the Norwegian television station “TV-Haugaland” and online. The libretto (text) and/or music can be written by the country representatives following the descriptions of scenes below, or they can be written by other people in the GSO.



Costumes will be developed centrally (Maribor University in Slovenia) so all scenes in which a specific character is performing will have the same costume. The scenography will depend on the specific scene. It is recommended to use recycled/sustainable/local materials for scenography and costumes where possible. An update email and new version of the libretto will be sent once a month. Please send pictures, videos, texts or other materials as they develop so these can be shared in social media and website. It will be necessary to have written signature by parents of under-18 year olds. These signatures should be kept by the alpha-contact in each country.



2. Characters

Name	Description	Personality	What does the character want?	Character motivation/aim	Character's atmosphere	Character's slogan (repeated phrase)
Sofia	A girl born on the Moon	Curious; very emotional; fascinated by new inventions	new inventions; friends	As child: to learn about life and love on the moon As grownup: Independence for the moon	Positive	"We can do it"
Bernard	A boy born on the Moon	Caring; smart; has a sadness that makes him long for another place which is resolved in the opera	Intellectual challenges; to travel to another place	As child: to learn about life and love on the moon As grownup: Fighting for the earth	Active but melancholic	"Is that normal?"
a group of children	born on the Moon	Good friends of both Sofia and Bernard	to explore Space	To support Sofia and the independence of the moon from the Earth	Warm	"Wow!"
Anna	Sofia's mother and an astronaut	Creative but pedantic	Desperate to know that Sofia will be safe on the moon despite being born in 1/6 Gravity	Develop life on the moon	In control	"Are you ready?"
Luc	Sofia's father and an astronaut	A trustworthy nerd, interested in technical devices, loyal.	Satisfied with having found the love of his life.	To support Anna no matter what.	Relaxed	"Dude!"
Liv	Female astronaut	Anna's friend, insecure, needs a friend. A bit scared to be in	Anna's approval as a friend	To support Anna no matter what.	Frightened	"Are you sure?"

		space.				
Takumi	Male astronaut	Luc's friend	Needs Luc's approval	To support Luc no matter what.	Worried	"Dude!"
Robi (temporary name)	Sofia's robot, and the children's Nanny	Programmed to be kind and has a lot of knowledge. But doesn't have real feelings.	Needs energy to function	Programmed to protect Sofia and the children	Distant	
Gravity	Force of nature represented as a character.	Trouble-maker. Complicated. Keeps the opera's story going. Powerful. Afraid that life in new places might change something for Gravity itself.	Interested in seeing how Sofia, Bernard and their friends are affected by being born in 1/6 g.	To keep the moon free from people because he doesn't want to take responsibility for what happens with the children. Make life difficult for the children	Mysterious	
A European Space Agency (ESA) official	Official	Official	To communicate about the Moon Village	That children will know everything about the moon village in a scientific way	Friendly	
Astronaut on the Intl. Space Station (ISS)	His real self	Funny, smart, plays the saxophone	To communicate through music	Spread knowledge about the moon through music	Friendly	

3. Synopsis

The year is 2040. 100 persons (scientists, artists, farmers, teachers, engineers) live on the Moon Village. Two of them are expecting a child: Sofia is the first child born in space. Soon, more children are born on the Moon. Robi the Robot is their nanny. Gravity plans to make life difficult for them. As the children grow, they explore Space. When they learn about the troubles on Earth, some of them (including Sofia's boyfriend) decide to return back to Earth. Sofia and the others who stayed on the Moon are sad. But now they grow even more curious about the Space around them. They need a school on the Moon! They study the Earth more carefully. Finally, Sofia leads the Moon children to declare independence from Earth. For this, they will need to trick Gravity by using creative knowledge.

4. Scene outline

Scene # and name	Time/place	Background information	Story	Country creating scene
Musical Overture by Portugal				
Introductory scene about the Moon by China				
Act 1 "BABIES ON THE MOON!"				
Pre-scene	2017/International Space Station	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WkYz43qALMU	Astronaut answers question about importance of Moon Village and plays a short melody on a saxophone	In space (live or pre-recorded astronauts)
1) "Preparing for takeoff"	2030/Moon Village	<i>10 people are orbiting the Moon in 6-month rotations.</i>	Anna, Luc, Liv and Takumi are preparing a 6-month rotation of the moon. Anna and Luc share a task while preparing the technical equipment.	Mexico
2) "The Question"	2030/in the spaceship		There are emotional interactions amongst the astronauts (they're from different countries/languages). A simple discussion leads to some (funny) confusion because of language differences, but in the end they all understand this and start laughing. Anna asks a question about Gravity.	Italy
3) "I'm Gravity"	2040/Moon Village	<i>100 people live permanently on the moon. First babies about to be born.</i>	Gravity presents itself and its intentions to make life difficult for the children	Slovakia
4) "Getting Ready*"			Anna and the other parents of the soon-to-born babies are worried about Gravity affecting the children's lives and bodies.	Brazil
5) "Babies"			First BABIES ON THE MOON! Robi the robotNanny introduces himself to the babies. Gravity watches in the background and is smiling to Itself.	Norway
6) "Looking to Earth"	2050	<i>The babies have grown.</i>	The babies have grown to be 10-year old children. Bernard and Anna study Earth through a telescope.	Ethiopia
7) "Troublemaker"	2015		Gravity's aria about how it will make problems for the kids because it is worried about what will happen to Gravity (itself) if life is established on the Moon	Ireland
8) "The decision"	<i>The year is 2054.</i>		The children are 14 years old. Bernard and Sofia are sweethearts. Bernard thinks about the many people on Earth, he feels lonely on the Moon. When the Moon-children study the Earth, they get worried. Finally Bernard decides to return to	Canada

			Earth.	
9) "Departure to Earth"	The year is 2055.	This is the big crisis and breaking point of the story!	A group of children is leaving to go back to Earth. HUGE CRISIS! Sofia stays, her boyfriend leaves. Sofia cries. The scene's scenography is made with MITAKA software...the scene moves between Earth and the Moon constantly through MITAKA	Japan
Act 2 "School on the Moon"				
1) "Sadness"	2055/on the Moon	The kids who stayed behind on the Moon are sad. They miss their friends.	A sad melody and dance. At the end of the song, one of the children tells Sofia that they can cheer up by learning about the Sun	Uganda
2) "Fun with the Sun"	2055/on the Moon		A fun song about the Sun	Kenya
3) "Panckes"	2055/on the Moon		Anna, Bernard and kids are cooking pancakes. A funny scene: When they flip them over, the pancakes take 2.5 times as much as usual time to fall back due to Gravity. Gravity is in the background making plans for trouble.	Belgium
4) "The confrontation"	2055/on the Moon		Confrontation between Robi the Robot and Gravity.	Argentina
5) "Light Side of the Moon"	2055/on the Moon	The children learn more about the Moon	The Moon Village children learn more about the Moon: <i>Earth doesn't see moon rotate (only sees one side). Maybe only see "one side" of the story? IDEA: Person who lived on light side of moon for a long time tells one side of the story while a new person who has to live on the dark side gives the other side of the story</i>	USA
6) "The Plan"	2055/on the Moon	This is a resolution (solution) to the sad crisis after some of the children left back to Earth	Sofia and her friends decide to start a school on the Moon	Spain
7) "School on the Moon"	2055/on the Moon		A school on the Moon is created and starts working...	Romania
8) "The Dance"	2055 on the Moon	A dance	Celebration of the Moon telescope array	Chile

9) "Creativity"			The kids, after seeing the dance celebration of the Moon telescope array, discuss how their school should be arranged. Art? Science? Creativity? Inquiry?	Sweden
Act 3 "CREATIONS"				
1) "Save the Earth"	2055/on the Moon	Message from Moon children to Earth children: "Save the Earth"	<i>Picture/film of a beach and sounds of waves, wind etc.</i>	Germany (libretto by Norway)
2) "Challenges"			Mixed emotions amongst the kids who stayed on the Moon – great adaptation challenges and scientific successes (half and half)	Australia
3) "Declaration of Independence"	2069/on the Moon	The kids have now grown and are now in their 30's.	Sofia leads the others to declare independence for the Moon, to create a peaceful good environment, the creative school, being humane (and peace) so that those on Earth may learn from us here on the Moon	Afghanistan? Belgium? Madrid?
4) "Bring Peace"	Time: 2069. Place: All over the Earth and Moon		Song: Bring Peace (worldwide and Lunar choir)	UK and worldwide
5) "CREATIONS"	2070/On the Moon		"CREATIONS" – an aria about creative learning by Sofia, who is now in her 30's.	Greece (LSTT/ GSOrt)
6) "Europe"		Moon Village mastermind	Sofia and friends interview the European Space Agency on the Moon	Holland
7) "The Moon"	Time: 2017	Song	Song about Humanity and the Moon	Zambia
FINALE: The Moon Village – composition by Galactic Echo				Serbia

5. Libretto

Act 1 scene 1 (Mexico)

Anna, Luc, Liv and Takumi are preparing a 6-month rotation of the moon. Anna and Luc share a task while preparing the technical equipment. They are in a hurry – things are a bit hectic.

Anna (*carrying some equipment*): Are you ready?

Luc, Liv and Takumi (*together*): Yes!

Anna (*giving the box of equipment to Luc*): Luc, put this in the space-ship

Luc (*smiling, totally in love, talking slowly while he is looking at Anna*): OK, I will do that

Takumi (*busy fixing something on the space-ship*): Luc, can you please check if this is correct?

Luc (*walking towards Takumi with the equipment*): Yes, sure

Anna (*loudly*): Luc!

Luc (*suddenly turning away from Takumi, putting the equipment in the space-ship*): Yes, yes, I know...

Liv (*to Anna*): Anna, did you remember the...

Anna (*turning to Liv and talking loudly*): Oh no...I forgot...Luc, could you....

Luc (*he and Takumi look at each other and shrug their shoulders*): Yes...I will get it...

Liv (*she and Anna look at each other, smiling*): Good

Luc (*trying to rush to the Moon Village but this takes 2.5 times as much time because of 1/6 gravity*): I will be back as soon as possible

Liv, Takumi and Anna (*laughing*): M-hm

Anna (*suddenly serious, the camera focuses on her face in a close-up frame*): well...actually gravity is not a laughing matter...

Act 1, scene 2: TO BE WRITTEN BY ITALIAN TEAM

Act 1, scene 3: TO BE WRITTEN BY SLOVAKIAN TEAM

Act 1, scene 4: TO BE WRITTEN BY BRAZILIAN TEAM

Act 1, scene 5: TO BE WRITTEN BY NORWEGIAN TEAM

Act 1, scene 6 (Ethiopia):

The children are now 10 years old.

Bernard: "I wanna play with the telescope! Oh, I see something green and blue, there's so much blue. Is that normal? And it's moving, why is it moving? And the colour is changing, it becomes white. It's so shiny! Is that a star?"

Act 1, scene 7: TO BE WRITTEN BY THE CANADIAN TEAM

Act 1, scene 8: TO BE WRITTEN BY JAPANESE TEAM

Act 2, scene 1: TO BE WRITTEN BY THE UGANDAN TEAM

Act 2, scene 2: FUN SONG ABOUT THE SUN (KENYA)

Act 2, scene 3: TO BE WRITTEN BY BELGIUM

Act 2, scene 4: CONFORNTATION BETWEEN GRAVITY AND ROBI (ARGENTINA)

We hear suspenseful background music. The stage is divided into two sections. There is a barrier between the two sections. On one side are the children. On the other side is Gravity. The children are whispering and looking worried about something but we don't hear what they are saying. Gravity is looking at the children and laughing to himself. The children feel something strange. Robi the Robot comes into the children's part of the stage.

Bernard: Look! There's Robi!

All the children turn to Robi and smile.

Children (together): Hi Robi!

Sofia (to Robi): Robi, we're studying Gravity.

Bernard (to Robi): Humans on Earth live in 1 Gravity. But here on the Moon we have only 1/6 Gravity.

Sofia (to Robi): Why didn't anyone tell us about this before?

Robi doesn't know why, so he doesn't answer. He turns and leaves. The lights go out on the children's side of the stage. Robi walks onto Gravity's side of the stage. He starts chasing Gravity, who tries to run away.

Robi (shouting): Leave the children alone!

In the end Gravity runs off the stage and Robi chases after him.

Act 2, scene 5: TO BE WRITTEN BY USA TEAM

Act 2, scene 6: TO BE WRITTEN BY SPANISH TEAM

Act 2, scene 7: TO BE WRITTEN BY ROMANIAN TEAM

Act 2, scene 8: DANCE BY THE CHILEAN TEAM

Act 2, scene 9: TO BE WRITTEN BY THE SWEDISH TEAM

Act 3, scene 1: MUSIC/PERFORMANCE BY GERMAN TEAM

Text starts like this: "If I could turn back time. If I could be born again on earth. I would swim forever and ever in the blue, blue sea I can only know from afar."

Act 3, scene 2: TO BE WRITTEN BY AUSTRALIAN TEAM

Act 3, scene 3: TO BE WRITTEN BY AFGHAN OR BELGIAN TEAM

Act 3, scene 4: Universal Song "Bring Peace" by UK team and worldwide

Bring peace, bring love, bring joy

Don't fight each other

Cherish the world, look after our earth

We beg you. The children of our world. (x1)

We all live together
Here on planet earth
Let's learn to live in harmony
It's sad when we fall out.
No more fighting each other
No more lies, no more conflict.
We are all connected.
In this world, we must love.

Bring peace, bring love, bring joy
Don't fight each other
Cherish the world, look after our earth
We beg you. The children of our world. (x1)

We can all make a difference:
Caring for our friends,
Being kind to those around us.
Oh, you will be surprised
What power your love can bring,
What comfort and what joy
Share your smile, try it now
Reaching out to all.

Bring peace, bring love, bring joy
Don't fight each other
Cherish the world, look after our earth
We beg you. The children of our world. (x1)

Look up to the sky, the moon, the stars,
Look around you on Earth. So much you can learn
Look deep into space, into objects below,
From smallest to largest, expanding our mind
Bring power, understanding, Bring healing, bring freedom

Bring peace, bring love, bring joy
Don't fight each other
Cherish the world, look after our earth
We beg you. The children of our world. (x2)

Act 3, scene 5: TO BE WRITTEN BY GREEK TEAM

Act 3, scene 6: LIVE INTERVIEW AT ESTEC (Room: "NEWTON") HOLLAND

Act 3, scene 7: TO BE WRITTEN BY ZAMBIA TEAM

Finale: TO BE WRITTEN BY SERBIAN TEAM



De kinderen zongen fanatiek mee met Irma Smegen. Foto: De Kunstbeweging

Emmer leerlingen spelen in internationale opera

Kinderen van de basisscholen de Brink, de Hesselanden en het Expertise Centrum voor anderstaligen werken met kinderen uit veertig andere landen aan de opera Moon Village.

EMMEN

De Emmer scholieren maakten op 29 maart kennis met het project. De leerlingen realiseren zich inmiddels dat ze meedoen aan 'iets groots'. Vanuit Nederland begeleiden theaterdocenten Henk de Reus uit Wijster en Irma Smegen uit Orvelte het project.

En om kinderen te enthousiasmeren voor astronomie werken wetenschappers van het European Space Agency's Technology Center (ESTEC) in Noordwijk mee aan de voorstelling. Dit past perfect bij de visie van de scholen, waar extra aandacht is voor wetenschap en technologie.

Global Science Opera is bedacht door de Noorse docent en musicus Oded Ben-Horin. In alle landen die meedoen zijn - net als in Emmen - groepen kinderen een deel van de opera aan het instuderen. Sommige landen sturen hun bijdrage als filmpje op, andere scènes zijn via een videoverbinding te zien. In december is de wereldpremière die live door de Noorse televisie wordt uitgezonden en wereldwijd via internet te bekijken is.

Project

Irma Smegen over het project: "We zijn trots dat de scholen in Emmen ervoor kiezen om mee te spelen in

deze wereldvoorstelling. Het project vraagt nogal wat voorbereiding en wordt daarom ondersteund door een subsidie van Compenta, die we aangevraagd hebben met begeleiding van De Kunstbeweging. Vooral de combinatie met de reguliere basisschool de Brink, de Hesselanden op het asielzoekerscentrum en het Expertise Centrum voor anderstaligen maakt het voor de leerlingen extra bijzonder."

Motto

Een deel van het internationale team - mét Ben-Horin - was op 29 maart in Nederland voor een bijeenkomst bij de ESA en om met de kinde-

ren in Emmen te werken. Het motto van de scholen 'Met oog voor de wereld' komt zo volgens Smegen heel dichtbij. Smegen vervolgt: "De scholen willen op een creatieve manier aan de slag met OOL (Onderzoekend en Ontwerpend Leren). Ze willen taalonderwijs daarmee verweven en willen het project 'Met het oog op de wereld' naar buiten zichtbaar maken via voorstellingen en presentaties. Spelenderwijs maken de kinderen ook kennis met astronomie en krijgen ze de kans om hun scène wereldwijd te spelen bij de ESA in Noordwijk waar astronomen opgeleid worden. Dat is toch geweldig?"