

Moon Village – a Global Science Opera (version #6 - not final)

(Characters, Synopsis, 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 so that all scenes in which a specific character (e.g. Sofia) 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 need?
Sofia	a girl born on the Moon	Curious; very emotional; fascinated by new inventions	new inventions; friends
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
a group of children	born on the Moon	Good friends of both Sofia and Bernard	need to explore Space
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
Luc	Sofia’s father and an astronaut	A trustworthy nerd	Satisfied with having found the love of his life.
Liv	Female astronaut	Anna’s friend	Needs Anna’s approval
Takumi	Male astronaut	Luc’s friend	Needs Luc’s approval
Robi (temporary name)	Sofia’s robot, and the children’s Nanny	Has no personality	Needs energy to function
Gravity	Force of nature represented as a character.	Trouble-maker, complicated, keeps the opera’s story going	Interested in seeing how Sofia, Bernard and their friends are affected by being born in 1/6 g.
A European Space Agency (ESA) official	Official	Official	To communicate about the Moon Village

Astronaut on the Intl. Space Station (ISS)	His real self	Funny, smart, plays the saxophone	To communicate through music
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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 #	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	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	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	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			Anna and the other parents of the soon-to-born babies are worried about Gravity affecting the children's lives and bodies.	Brazil
5			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	2050	<i>The babies have grown.</i>	The babies have grown to be 10-year old children. Bernard studies Earth through a telescope. Anna is cooking pancakes in the kitchen.	Ethiopia
7	<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	Canada

			Moon-children study the Earth, they get worried. Finally Bernard decides to return to Earth.	
8	They year is 2057.	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	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	2055/on the Moon		A fun song about the Sun	Kenya
3			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.	Belgium
4	2055/on the Moon		Confrontation between Robi the Robot and Gravity.	Argentina
5	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	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	2055/on the Moon		A school on the Moon is created and starts working...	Romania
8	2055 on the Moon	A dance	Celebration of the Moon telescope array	Chile
9			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	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			Mixed emotions amongst the kids who stayed on the Moon – great adaptation challenges and scientific successes (half and half)	Australia
3	2069/on the Moon	The kids have now grown and	Sofia leads the others to declare independence for the Moon, to create a peaceful good environment,	Afghanistan?

		are now in their 30's.	the creative school, being humane (and peace) so that those on Earth may learn from us here on the Moon	Belgium? Ireland?
4	Time: 2069. Place: All over the Earth and Moon		Song: Bring Peace (worldwide and Lunar choir)	UK and worldwide
5	2070/On the Moon		"CREATIONS" – an aria about creative learning by Sofia, who is now in her 30's.	Greece (LSTT? GSOrt?)
6		Moon Village mastermind	Sofia and friends interview the European Space Agency on the Moon	Holland
7	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.

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 soon...

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)

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 don't notice him. 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!

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

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

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

Robi does not 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. 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: Song "Bring Peace" by UK team and worldwide

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