

JEFF STERN, percussionist

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Curriculum Vitae

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Peabody Conservatory, Baltimore, MD

2017-present

Percussion Faculty

- Weekly studio teaching for the undergraduate and graduate students of percussion chair Robert van Sice
- Chamber music coaching for percussionists as well as mixed instrumentation ensembles

Mount Saint Mary's University, Emmitsburg, MD

2018-present

Percussion Faculty

- Weekly private lessons for music majors and non-majors
- Establish and direct percussion ensemble

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

2015-2018

Guest Studio Teacher

- Assist faculty member Ayano Kataoka in studio management and curriculum design
- Teach undergraduate lessons with focus on contemporary marimba technique and repertoire
- Lead studio classes including both undergraduate and graduate students

Peabody Preparatory, Baltimore, MD

2016-2018

2013-2014

Director of Percussion Department

- Direct Peabody Preparatory Percussion Group
- Teach private percussion lessons to students aged 7-adult
- Supervise work of percussion teaching assistant

Yale University, New Haven, CT

2015-2016

Teaching Assistant for “Hearing,” a required class for all School of Music students

- Assist professors Joan Panetti and Richard Gard in course organization
- Coordinate preparation of course materials and grade assignments
- Lead classes and teach selected topics

Percussion Teaching Assistant

- Schedule lessons and coachings for the graduate studio of Robert van Sice
- Teach percussion to undergraduates as well as secondary lessons for graduate students
- Coordinate collaborations with faculty members, composers, and facility managers for the Yale Percussion Group
- Organize, maintain, and expand percussion instrument collection
- Serve as a liaison for Yale with the Adams, Pearl, and Vic Firth corporations

OrchKids, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore, MD

2012-2013

Percussion Instructor

- Initiated percussion program, 2012
- Taught percussion classes to disadvantaged elementary & middle school students

MASTERCLASSES

DMV Percussion Academy, Washington, DC	2019, 2018
Bowling Green State Univ., Bowling Green, OH	2019
Wright State Univ., Dayton, OH	2019
Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong	2018
Baptist University, Hong Kong	2018
Baltimore Symphony Youth Orchestra, Baltimore, MD	2018
Univ. of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, CT	2018
Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA	2018
Univ. of Tennessee, Martin, TN	2018
Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, TN	2018
Vanderbilt’s Blair School of Music, Nashville, TN	2018
Educational Center for the Arts, New Haven, CT	2017
College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA	2017

PERFORMANCES: SOLO AND CHAMBER MUSIC

icarus Quartet 2015-present

A 2 piano/2 percussion chamber group committed to the instrumentation's great traditional repertoire as well as the fostering of new works by young composers

Selected Performances:

- A Tribute to Paul Lansky at Princeton's Richardson Auditorium 2019
- Ensemble-in-residence at Music at St. David's in Baltimore 2017-2018
- Queens New Music Festival performing music by Reich, Lubman, Kotcheff, and Lansky 2018
- Horowitz Piano Series at the Yale School of Music featuring Bartok's *Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion* 2018
- New Music Gathering at Bowling Green State Univ. feat. Reich's *Quartet* 2017
- Ensemble-in-residence at Yale College Composition Department 2016-2018
- "Yale in New York" at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall, contributing a performance of Paul Lansky's *Textures* 2015

The Percussion Collective 2018-present

A quickly emerging ensemble comprised of Yale percussion alumni, brought together by artistic director Robert van Sice to present his insightful and powerful approach to modern percussion music to the world's most respected stages

Selected Performances:

- The World Premiere of Alejandro Viñao's *Stress and Flow* for percussion quartet and electronics at New York University 2019
- Featured evening-length concert at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention 2018
- Live broadcast concert on WXQR's "Midday Masterpiece" series 2018
- US tour with music by Reich and Neustadter including concerts at Vanderbilt's Blair School of Music, Tennessee Tech Univ., Univ. of Tennessee Martin, Univ. of Massachusetts Amherst, and the Peabody Conservatory 2018
- Robert van Sice's Faculty Artist Recital at Yale, celebrating his 20 years on the School of Music faculty, including the world premiere of Garth Neustadter's *Seaborne*, with video by Kjell van Sice 2018

Yale Percussion Group, New Haven, CT 2014-2016

Internationally renowned chamber ensemble under the direction of Robert van Sice

Selected Performances:

- World premiere of James Woods' *Sea Dances* for percussion trio, world premiere of Ethan Braun's *Triptych*, Iannis Xenakis' *Pléiades*, and György Ligeti's *Síppal, dobbal, nádihegedüvel* with mezzo-soprano Janna Baty 2016
- World premiere of James Woods' *Secret Dialogues* for solo marimba 2015

- as part of the Yale Percussion Group Preview concert
- “Yale in New York” at Carnegie’s Weill Recital Hall, featuring Paul Lansky’s *Textures* and the world premiere of Michael Laurello’s *Spine* 2015
- Percussive Arts Society International Convention - Ensemble Competition 2014
Winners’ Concert performing *Sextet* by Steve Reich

Sonar New Music Ensemble, Baltimore, MD 2013-2014

Percussionist for Baltimore’s “Best Classical Group of 2014” (Baltimore City Paper) with adventurous programming and residencies including the Baltimore Theatre Project

Selected Performances:

- “Dark Visions” - Premiered *By the Light of the Stars* by Lonnie Hevia and performed Sciarrino’s *Infinito Nero* with mezzo-soprano Megan Ihnen 2014
- “Theatrics” - Stephen Hartke’s *Meanwhile*, John Cage’s *Songbooks*, and the premiere of a work by Ethan Braun 2013
- “Old Songs” - Performed *As An Nós* by Donnacha Dennehy and then joined soprano soloist Lindsay Kesselman for John Harbison’s *Miribai Songs* and Amy Beth Kirsten’s *L’Ange Pale* 2013

Peabody Percussion Group, Baltimore, MD 2012-2014

Award-winning percussion chamber ensemble under the direction of Robert van Sice

Selected Performances:

- “Kennedy Center Conservatory Project” featuring Viñao’s percussion quintet, *Estudios de Frontera* 2014
- Viñao’s *Estudios de Frontera* with guest soloist Svet Stoyanov 2013
- *She Who Sleeps with a Small Blanket* for solo percussion by Kevin Volans, Iannis Xenakis’ *Okho*, and James Wood’s *Village Burial with Fire* 2013
- Performed Frederic Rzewski’s *To the Earth* on Peabody’s Thursday Noon Series 2012

Norfolk New Music Ensemble, Norfolk, CT 2013-2014

Selected Performances:

- John Cage’s *Living Room Music*, Klatzow’s *Ambient Resonances*, Viñao’s *Khan Variations*, and premieres by festival composition fellows 2014
- Re-orchestration of Martin Bresnick’s *Bucket Rider* along with the premieres of works by participant composers Molly Joyce, Katherine Balch, Brendan McMullen, Hilary Purrington, and Andrew Boss 2013

Boston New Music Initiative, Boston, MA 2011-2012

A collective of performers and composers dedicated to bringing contemporary music to the greater-Boston area

Selected Performances:

- Premiered the BNMI “Recital Series” with a program of marimba repertoire: Sammut’s *Four Rotations*, Keiko Abe’s *Variations on Japanese Children’s Songs*, Bach’s A minor fugue from *Violin Sonata No. 2*, Sejourne’s *Prelude No. 1*, Klatzow’s *Dances of Earth and Fire*, Viñao’s *Khan Variations*, and *Rhyme and Reason* by Eugene O’Brien 2012
- Peter Klatzow’s *Dances of Earth and Fire* for solo marimba and Ezra Donner’s *¡Cigarra!*, featuring soprano Margot Rood 2012
- Donald Martino’s *Soliloquy* for solo vibraphone and Kyong Mee Choi’s *Uncarved Water* for chamber ensemble 2012
- *Sublimation* for marimba and electronics by Kyong Mee Choi 2011

Yellow Barn, Putney, VT 2012

Selected Performances:

- Artist Residency - Presented Gérard Grisey’s percussion sextet, *Le Noir de L’Etoile*, with Doug Perkins, Greg Beyer, James Beauton, Amy Garapic, and Mari Yoshinaga as the culmination of a week-long workshop at the music festival 2012

McCormick Marimba Festival, Tampa, FL 2012

Selected Performances:

- Performance of *Khan Variations* for solo marimba by Alejandro Viñao, Philippe Manoury’s marimba duo from *Le Livre des Claviers* with Sharif Mamoun, and Stuart Saunders Smith’s *A River, Rose* for violin and vibraphone with Julie Lee as part of the college student showcase 2012

Chosen Vale International Percussion Seminar, Enfield, NH 2011, 2013

Selected Performances:

- Returned for a guest appearance with faculty member Eduardo Leandro, performing Philippe Manoury’s marimba duo in a presentation of the entire *Le Livre des Claviers* on the festival’s closing concert 2013
- *Drumming* by Steve Reich, with the composer in attendance 2011

So Percussion Summer Institute, Princeton, NJ 2010

Selected Performances:

- World premiere of Andrea Mozzarella’s *Polybot* for four drumsets 2010
- An outdoor concert in Princeton featuring Terry Riley’s *In C* 2010
- Lukas Ligeti’s *Pattern Transformations* for marimba quartet 2010

UMass Marimba Band, Amherst, MA 2008-2011

- Winner of the DownBeat Award for Best Jazz Combo 2011

Other Significant Performances:

- **Akropolis Reed Quintet on Yale's Oneppo Chamber Series**, New Haven, CT 2019
Joined this award-winning ensemble for Steven Snowden's *Spocket* for reed quintet and percussion on this guest series curated by David Shifrin at the Yale School of Music
- **Chinese University of Hong Kong Composition Dept. Residency** 2018
Visited Hong Kong with ensemble *mise-en* to perform a program of music by Rosenberger, Kyburz, Huber, and Pagh-Paan as well as premieres of student works, with additional masterclasses for the percussion students at both the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Baptist University
- **Percussive Linz Gala Concert**, Linz, Austria 2015
Performed Richard Rodney Bennett's *After Syrinx II* as a selected soloist from the Linz International Marimba Competition in a program featuring artists from the jury and the Wave Marimba Quartet
- **Norwalk Symphony Orchestra**, Norwalk, CT 2015
Concerto Soloist for the world premiere of Michel Galante's *Concerto Grosso* for two marimbas, violin, electronics, and orchestra with fellow soloists Doug Perry and Mélanie Clapiès
- **Lincoln Center Out of Doors Festival**, New York, NY 2014
World premiere of John Luther Adams' *Sila*, with ensemble including members of eighth blackbird, JACK quartet, and The Crossing choir
- **Norfolk Festival Choral Workshop**, Norfolk, CT 2014
Klatzow's *Return of the Moon* for marimba and voices with the festival chorus under the direction of Simon Carrington
- **Percussive Arts Society International Convention**, Indianapolis, IN 2013
Participated in a masterclass by renowned marimbist and educator William Moersch by performing Richard Rodney Bennett's *Concerto for Marimba and Chamber Orchestra*
- **Peabody Preparatory Faculty Recital**, Baltimore, MD 2013
Takemitsu's *Toward the Sea* with alto flutist Rachel Choe
- **Make Music New York**, Morningside Park, NY 2011
Performed John Luther Adams' *Inuksuit* for 9 to 99 percussionists in an ensemble including percussionists including Douglas Perkins and So Percussion, with the composer in attendance

- **Ayano Kataoka's Faculty Recital**, Amherst, MA 2011
Performed Takemitsu's *Rain Tree* for three percussionists with Ayano Kataoka and Thomas Wilson as part of a benefit concert for Japan following the devastating earthquakes and tsunamis

EDUCATION

Yale School of Music, New Haven, CT 2014-2016
Artist Diploma in Percussion Performance

- Principal Professor: Robert van Sice

Peabody Conservatory, Baltimore, MD 2012-2014
Master of Music in Percussion Performance

- Principal Professors: Robert van Sice, Tom Freer, David Skidmore

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 2007-2012
Bachelor of Music in Percussion Performance & Music Education
Graduated Cum Laude

- Principal Professors: Ayano Kataoka, Thom Hannum

LARGE ENSEMBLE AND ORCHESTRAL EXPERIENCE

Extra Percussionist, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore, MD 2018-2019

Timpanist, Washington Chamber Orchestra, Columbia, MD/Alexandria, VA 2019

Timpanist and Section Percussionist, Yale Philharmonia, New Haven, CT 2014-2016

Timpanist and Section Percussionist, Peabody Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore, MD 2012-2014

Principal Timpanist and Percussionist, Amherst Symphony Orchestra, MA 2008-2012

Principal Timpanist and Percussionist, Pioneer Valley Symphony Orchestra, MA 2008-2012

Principal Timpanist, UMass University Orchestra, Amherst, MA 2008-2011

Percussion Section Leader, UMass Minuteman Marching Band, Amherst, MA 2007-2010

Principal Timpanist, Mount Holyoke College Orchestra, MA 2009

The Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps, Allentown, PA	2009
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drum Corps International Bronze Medalist 	
Blue Stars Drum and Bugle Corps, La Crosse, WI	2008
Reading Buccaneers Drum and Bugle Corps, PA	2007
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drum Corps Associates World Champion 	
Section Percussionist, Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Jamestown, VA	2007
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performed with the VSO for America's 400th Birthday Celebration under the direction of JoAnn Falletta; notable guests including President George W. Bush 	
Penn State Indoor Drumline, State College, PA	2006
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter Guard International, Independent Open Bronze Medalist 	

AWARDS/GRANTS

Chamber Music Yellow Springs Competition for Emerging Professional Ensembles, First Place, icarus Quartet	2019
Faculty Development Grant, Peabody Preparatory	2018
American Prize in Chamber Music, Professional Division, 3rd Place, icarus Quartet	2017-2018
Montpelier Arts Center Classical Recital Competition Winner	2017
Percussive Linz International Marimba Competition, Semi-finalist, Linz, Austria	2015
Chamber Music Society of Yale Competition Winners	2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henri Dutilleux's <i>Les Citations for oboe, harpsichord, double bass, and percussion with Tim Gocklin, Stephen Gamboa, and Sam Suggs on a sold-out subscription concert on Yale's Oneppo Chamber Series</i> 	
Harold Randolph Prize in Performance, Peabody Conservatory	2014
General Scholarship and Merit-based Grant, Peabody Conservatory	2012-2014
Career Development Grant, Peabody Conservatory	2013

Salzburg International Marimba Competition , Semi-finalist, Salzburg, Austria	2012
New York Magazine - Top Ten Classical Performances of 2011	2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make Music New York - John Luther Adams' <i>Inuksuit</i> 	
DownBeat Award for Best Jazz Combo , UMass Marimba Band	2011
Vic Firth Scholarship , University of Massachusetts, Amherst	2010

SUMMER FESTIVALS

Eighth Blackbird Creative Lab , Ojai, CA	2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected as one of 30 fellows in the inaugural edition of this annual program with the members of 8BB, composers Jennifer Higdon, Ted Hearne, and Ned McGowan, choreographer Mark DeChiazza and others • Performed works by Steve Reich, Alexandre Lunsqui, Ned McGowan, and workshopped and presented the premiere of Danny Clay's <i>Lab Book</i> 	
Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival , North Adams, MA	2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performed in a 3-week residency at MASS MoCA along with a group of 40 composers and performers from around the world, as well as the Bang on a Can All-Stars with additional faculty musicians • Played works by Steve Reich, David T. Little, Bun-Ching Lam, David Bird, John Luther Adams, and a premiere by Ken Thompson in the museum's formal venues and among the visual art installations 	
Percussive Linz International Marimba Competition , Austria	2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced to the semi-finals among the top 8 players • Performed at the Anton Bruckner Private University for a jury of renowned marimbists including Emmanuel Sejourne, Robert van Sice, Momoko Kamiya, Ivana Bilic, Peter Sadlo, and artistic director Bogdan Bacanu 	
Avaloch Farm Music Institute , Boscawen, NH	2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artist residency with the Norfolk Contemporary Ensemble of 2014 during the inaugural New Music Initiative session at Avaloch • Workshopped and rehearsed an evening-length work by Nicole Murphy • Recorded the work at Cedar House Sound and Mastering in North Sutton, NH 	

Yale School of Music's Norfolk New Music Workshop, Norfolk, CT 2013-2014

- Collaborated on the formation of new works by emerging student composers
- Worked with conductor Julian Pellicano, pianist Lisa Moore, and festival director Martin Bresnick
- Daily lectures with members of the composition faculty from the Yale School of Music

Salzburg International Marimba Competition, Austria 2012

- Performed at University Mozarteum for a jury of renowned marimbists including Emmanuel Sejourne, Robert van Sice, Momoko Kamiya, Ivana Bilic, and artistic directors Peter Sadlo and Bogdan Bacanu
- Advanced to the semi-finals among the top 18 players

Yellow Barn Music Festival - Artist Residency Putney, VT 2012

- Week-long project focusing on Gérard Grisey's percussion sextet, *Le Noir de L'Etoile*, with Doug Perkins, Greg Beyer, James Beauton, Amy Garapic, and Mari Yoshinaga
- Collaborations with astronomer Tom Geballe
- Outreach performances and discussions with members of the local community and students of the Greenwood School

Chosen Vale International Percussion Seminar, Enfield, CT 2011

- Formal masterclasses with each member of the renowned faculty including Michael Burritt, Daniel Druckman, eighth blackbird's Matthew Duvall, and program director, Doug Perkins
- Daily open sessions with faculty on various repertoire and topics of discussion
- Performances of solo and chamber works for percussion
- Lectures by leading composers including Steve Reich and Stuart Saunders Smith

So Percussion Summer Institute, Princeton, NJ 2010

- Coachings, masterclasses, and seminars led by members of So Percussion
- Daily lectures from various distinguished composers including Paul Lansky, Steven Mackey, and Lukas Ligeti
- Concerts in formal and informal venues with institute participants along with So Percussion and other guest artists

Cloyd Duff Timpani Seminar, Kansas City, MO 2010

- Week-long, intensive study led by Tom Freer and Jim Atwood on the Cloyd Duff approach to playing, tuning, and caring for timpani

RECORDINGS

Nicole Murphy: *Stolen*, Elm City Records 2013

John Luther Adams: *Inuksuit*, Cantaloupe Records 2013

SPONSORSHIPS

Vic Firth Drumsticks and Mallets, Boston, MA 2011-present

Pearl Drums/Adams Musical Instruments, Nashville, TN 2016-present

Evans Drumheads, Farmingdale, NY 2019-present

Zildjian Cymbals, Boston, MA 2019-present