

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE
COLLEGE OF ARTS + ARCHITECTURE

The Department of Music presents

Percussion Ensemble

Rick Dior, director

Shock Factor

Nathan Daughtrey

4/4 Four Four

Anthony Cirone

Off Axis

Lynn Glassock

Tripp Haynes, solo marimba

Music For Pieces of Wood

Steve Reich

In The Pocket

John Beck

Samba

Ney Rosauero
arr. Dior

Anne R. Belk Theater
Robinson Hall for the Performing Arts
Monday, November 27, 2023 | 7:30 pm
coaa.charlotte.edu

Program Notes

From a whisper to a roar, ***Shock Factor*** is a study in dynamic contrast. Primarily driven by battery percussion, the piece features exciting vocal effects all derived from the word “shock.” A brief section in the middle of the piece takes a departure from the battery instruments by bringing prominence to the metallic keyboard percussion (bells, vibraphone, & chimes).

4/4 for Four

Anthony Cirone has served as percussionist with the San Francisco Symphony and Professor of Music at San Jose State University since 1965 and is currently head of percussion studies at The University of Indiana, Bloomington. Cirone is a prolific composer with over 60 published titles. One of his most famous works is *4/4 for Four*, a dynamic conversation between 4 sets of percussion instruments. Principal rhythmic motives are stated in 4/4 time, but are often stated in hyper-meters over 2 or 3 bars. Cirone explores the numerous sonorities of the timpani, bongos, timbales and tom-toms, where the performers are asked to play rhythmic melodies as well as textural accompaniments. From his long association with orchestral music, Cirone often uses forms found in typical 18th and 19th century symphonic works. This work resembles a finale to a 19th century symphony, perhaps something from Tchaikovsky. Starting with an allegro maestoso, he then cadences and moves on with a presto and the coda is a presto vivo.

- Note by the publisher

Off Axis includes an impressive virtuosic yet idiomatic solo marimba part. The music borders on the atonal but contains a few recurring themes that pass from the marimba to the hand and membranous percussion instruments. Glasscock uses the multi-layered ensemble as a sounding board for the solo marimba with much rhythmic interplay and imitation. The piece uses

many odd-meters such as 5/4, 3/16, 7/16, and 10/16, before settling into 4/4 common time for the drum solo section. A contrasting marimba cadenza is featured to finish out the piece in a much more relaxed tone.

Music for Pieces of Wood was written in 1973 and is designed for five players. It is written for claves, which are wooden percussion instruments with particular pitches. There are two types used in this piece, the so-called standard and the “African” claves. The clave, which comes from Cuba (the word in Spanish means “key”), is made of two pieces of hardwood that the player beats. Audiences may be most familiar with the instrument in its use in the rumba and other Latin-American dances. They have been used in orchestral works by Varese, Copland (in *Connotations*, among other works), and Berio. The Claves in this piece are designed to create a particular pitch differentiation. The composer specifies the physical arrangement of the players. While the notation is precise, the composer asks the players to repeat each bar “approximately” the number of times indicated, perhaps giving the performers a chance to vary not only the character but the duration of each performance.

John Beck’s ***In The Pocket*** is a quartet for four drum set performers. It draws upon several musical styles including Jazz, Rock and Rudimental drumming to create an exciting tapestry of rhythm. Each performer is featured as a soloist and accompanist and the ensemble playing is choreographed to sound like one large instrument.

Samba by Ney Rosauero draws upon the rich Brazilian percussion tradition to create a rhythmic and melodic journey through the musical culture of Brazil. Several native Brazilian instruments are featured and include the Surdo (bass drum), Cuica (friction talking drum), Pandiero (tambourine), Tamborim (small accent drum), Apito (whistle) as well as the more common instruments like shakers, agogo bells, quiro, and the drum set. A traditional Batucada samba is inserted ½ way through the piece and includes the call and response sections commonly heard during Brazilian Carnival.

Percussion Ensemble Personnel

Jack Applegate
Tim Gawert
Tripp Hayes
Arysa Horn
Conner Oglesby
Evan Schmit
Ava Weaver

About the Director

Rick Dior is a graduate of the Manhattan School of Music where he studied with renowned timpanist Fred Hinger and jazz composer Bob Mintzer. He also studied extensively with famed jazz drummer Joe Morello. Rick has performed as a percussionist and drummer with some of the greatest artists in the music industry including James Taylor, Aretha Franklin, Roberta Flack, Ray Charles, Bobby McFerrin, Al Jarreau, Marvin Hamlisch, BeBe Winans and Martina McBride. He has added his jazz drum set talents to performances with many great jazz artists including Marvin Stamm, Bill Watrous, Clark Terry, Red Rodney, Chris Potter, Russell Malone and Lionel Hampton. Some of these performances have taken place with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, which he has performed with since 1990 as principal percussionist, section percussionist and timpanist. Rick's recording credits are extensive and include movie soundtracks, CD releases and commercial radio and television spots. As a first call percussionist in Charlotte, Rick has performed in dozens of Broadway show tours. Some of the most recent are *Beautiful*, *Wicked*, *The Producers*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Spamalot*, *Hairspray*, *South Pacific*, *West Side Story* and *Mary Poppins*.

Rick has served as the Professor of Percussion at UNC Charlotte since 2001. He also maintains an active private teaching studio. His private students have gone on to attend UNC Charlotte as well as many other prestigious music institutions such as The Julliard School of Music, The Manhattan School of Music, The Eastman School of Music, North Texas State University, the Oberlin School of Music and The University of Miami. Many of these students are active as professional musicians and educators.

As a composer Rick has written many compositions and arrangements for Classical, Jazz and Latin ensembles. In 2018 Rick was commissioned to orchestrate his composition *Science Fiction* for a European tour of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, widely considered to be the finest youth orchestra in the world. He is the author of several percussion books including the acclaimed *Advanced Coordination for Drum Set and Hand Percussion*. Rick's books and compositions are published by Tap Space. He is also an artist for Vic Firth Drumsticks, Mike Balter Mallets, Paiste Cymbals, and Doc Sweeney Drums.

CoA+A Performing Arts Services

Dean Adams, Senior Associate Dean for Performing Arts

Hali Hutchison-Houk, Production Manager

Liz Paradis, Audience Services Manager

Beth Rucker, Business Services Coordinator

Liz Wooley, Performing Arts Operations Manager

Meena Carr, Assistant Technical Director

Rachel Engstrom, Lecturer, Costume Lab Supervisor / Designer

Matthew B. Fraiser, Lecturer, Technical Director

Rick Moll, Senior Lecturer, Production Electrician

Gordon W. Olson, Senior Lecturer, Lighting Designer

Benjamin G. Stickels, Senior Lecturer, Audio Engineer, Asst. Production Manager

Rachel Swenson Watkins, Senior Lecturer, Stage Management

Rebekah Briles, Hazel Doherty, & Noah Tepper, Music Stage Managers

Wendy Van Rees, Performing Arts House Management Supervisor

Tammy McNamara, Performing Arts House Manager

Patron Services Representatives

Will Loyd, Alex Lozier, Avery Pack, Justin Spencer

Robinson Hall Technicians

Caleb Basham, Lucy Burch, Kayhe Duerson, Alex Mclellan, Nick Mendlik,
Christian Souza, Renee Szeghy

Performing Arts Audio Technician

Emily Parker

College of Arts + Architecture

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

Jazz Ensemble and Combos

Tue Nov 28 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band

Wed Nov 29 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

DECEMBER

University Chorale

Fri Dec 1 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

Men's & Women's Choirs

Tue Dec 5 | 7:30 pm (W) & 8:30 pm (M)
Anne R. Belk Theater