

The University of Iowa  
School of Music

## Ben Stone, Junior Percussion Recital

Ben Stone, *percussion*  
Nick Miller, *percussion*

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Saturday, March 13, 2021, 5:30 PM

Voxman Music Building Recital Hall

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### Program

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| Chatterbox (2014)              |                                | Chad Floyd<br>(b. 1977)       |
| Fertility Rites (1997)         |                                | Christos Hatzis<br>(b. 1953)  |
| <i>I.</i>                      |                                |                               |
| <i>II.</i>                     |                                |                               |
| <i>III.</i>                    |                                |                               |
| The Game of the Century (2014) | <i>Nick Miller, Percussion</i> | C. Snow                       |
| Moon Chasers (2015)            |                                | Mark Ford<br>(b. 1958)        |
| Tantrum (2011)                 |                                | Kevin Bobo<br>(b. 1974)       |
| Light (2016)                   |                                | The Dear Hunter<br>arr. Stone |

Ben is a student of Dr. Daniel Moore. This program is being presented as an optional recital.

## Program Notes

**Dr. Chad Floyd** (b.1977) is a percussion artist, educator, and composer. Chad currently serves as Associate Professor of Percussion at Campbellsville University where he instructs applied percussion and directs the percussion ensemble, steel band, and drumline. He also serves as Director of Steel Appeal, a steel drum academy based in Campbellsville, Kentucky comprised of over 100 students from the surrounding area. In addition, Chad also serves as President for the Kentucky Chapter of the Percussive Arts Society and as a member of the PAS Education Committee.

**Chatterbox** is inspired by performances on hand drums in tight spaces. Using a limited instrumentation, grooves surface and shift unexpectedly, shifting on melodic phrases or the random accent. The piece walks the line between traditional hand drumming performance and the usual multi-percussion solo.

With two Juno awards, several other national and international prizes to his credit and a slew of recent commissions by internationally recognized touring, **Christos Hatzis** (b. 1953) is widely recognized as “one of the most important composers writing today” (CBC). An extensive discography for major and independent labels and wide Internet distribution of his audio playlist (over 1,700,000 hits since 2008) have garnered a loyal international following for his music. Hatzis’ music is influenced by early Christian spirituality, Pythagorean and Hermetic ideas, his own Byzantine music heritage, world cultures and religions, and various classical, jazz, and pop music idioms from the past and present. Hatzis is currently a professor of composition at the University of Toronto.

**Fertility Rites** is inspired by Inuit throat songs, originally a fertility ritual women would perform while men were out hunting. The piece represents the contrast between the performer’s intentions and the limitations of the marimba, developing the opposition between felt and performed music. Hatzis juxtaposes sexually suggestive vocal games against styles of music more familiar to the listener, such as the quasi-French second movement or tango-like third. Hatzis also utilizes digitally-altered marimba in the track to virtually enhance the instrument, replicating the performer’s internal song. Movement I highlights these juxtapositions by setting gentle melodies against dark, sexual calls in the track, but by Movement III the “inner” and “outer” worlds join in unabashed celebration.

## Program Notes

**C. Snow** is the pen name of composer and multi-instrumentalist Connor Shafranik who is based in Germany. He is currently a master's student at the Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler Berlin, where he's studying electroacoustic music composition. When he's not working on music, you might find Shafranik playing chess— a hobby that ultimately led him to write **The Game of the Century**: Chess for Two Percussionists, a retelling of the famous 1956 chess game between Donald Byrne (white) and 13-year-old Bobby Fischer (black). Heralded as “The Game of the Century” in *Chess Review* by Hans Kmoch, the game features a brilliant trap set by Fischer, who would eventually become the chess world champion. The sequence of moves within the piece are entirely accurate to the original game, and the rhythms used coincide with the flow and strategy employed by Byrne and Fischer.

**Mark Ford** (b. 1958) is the coordinator of percussion activities at The University of North Texas in Denton, Texas and Immediate Past-President of the Percussive Arts Society. He is a marimba specialist and the director of one of the largest percussion programs in the United States at UNT. Ford has premiered a variety of new works for solo marimba, and he has been a featured performer/clinician throughout the states at universities and at music conferences including PASIC, MENC, TMEA, Mid-West and CBDNA. Ford has also performed at International Music Festivals in South America, Asia, Australia and Europe.

**Moon Chasers** is a piece for solo marimba about two people in love separated over a long distance, connected only by the moon. The piece takes technically challenging, intricate playing and turns it into light, sensitive expression. The opening theme is reused and expanded throughout, reflecting themes of love and separation. Composed for Mark's wife Ewelina, the piece is based on the poem “Dreamer” by Toni Childs:

*You're the voice of a dream I had  
You're the voice and I'm so glad  
You're the weight of a dream of life come true  
There's no denying  
I sometimes run and chase the moon  
I just can  
I sometimes run and chase the views  
And dream of you*

## Program Notes

**Kevin Bobo** (b. 1974) is professor of percussion at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, a position he has held since 2007. Internationally respected as a solo marimba artist, Bobo has performed on five continents. His travels have taken him to Taiwan, Singapore, Argentina, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Australia, Spain, Latvia, Lithuania, France, Italy, the Czech Republic, and nearly 40 states in the U.S. As a composer, Bobo's compositions are performed all over the world, with his solo works frequently appearing on international competition repertoire lists.

**Tantrum** is an experimental composition for solo snare drum. Containing four main sections, the piece explores a wide range of tone colors through the use of specified playing zones, special techniques, and the extreme use of dynamics. Almost like a child throwing a temper tantrum, sudden outbursts pop out of quiet, intricate playing, utilizing more surfaces than just the drum head.

**Light** appears on The Dear Hunter's 2016 album *Act V: Hymns with the Devil in Confessional*, the fifth installment in a six-part rock opera. Light takes place as the main character, the Boy, confides his past mistakes to his newborn son. Like a lullaby, the piece is at times heavy, but mostly hopeful. Beginning in darkness and confusion, the Boy sees the potential for his son to find light in the world, repeatedly singing:

*Boy, someday I hope I do  
See the man you will grow into,  
And when your heart's in disarray,  
Know that your father too has made mistakes.*