

## Professional Summary

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Active as a professional musician and teaching-artist for over 15 years. Performed in a variety of genres ranging from Jazz, Rock, Funk, Global Music, to Electronic Dance Music. Organized and led successful tours for bands internationally for over a decade. Worked as a teaching-artist with a wide age group, ranging from Grades K-12 in at-risk communities across New York City. Recipient of multiple grants and awards, including Arts International, US Artists International, New York State Council on the Arts, & Meet The Composer.

## Skills

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- Concert bookings & tour management
- Strong Interpersonal and written communication
- Extremely organized
- Public speaking
- Educational program implementation
- Student motivation
- Differentiated instruction (Snare Drumming, Hand drumming, Electronic Beat Production, Early Childhood Music)
- Managing classroom for diverse populations
- Monitoring outcomes
- Inquiry-based learning
- Positive learning environment
- Classroom discipline
- Expertise in Ableton, Garageband, Excel, MS Word, Powerpoint, Keynote
- Strong demonstration skills

## Grants & Awards

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Pioneer Works Studio Residency Program, Brooklyn, NY (2017)

Marisco Teaching-Scholarship at Lamont School of Music, Denver University, Denver CO (2012);

Meet The Composer Grant (for Erie Art Museum Performance) (2011);

US Artists International Grant (National Endowment for the Arts Fund, administered by Mid-Atlantic Arts, for Mediawave Festival, Gyor, Hungary Performance) (2006);

Arts International Grant for Artists in International Festivals (for Kala Ghoda Festival, Mumbai & 7th Annual East West Encounter, Bangalore, India) (2002);

Music/OMI Artist Residency Program, Omi, NY (2001)

## Work History

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### Visiting Artist

10/2008 to Current

### Colleges & Universities Worldwide

Conducts workshop and masterclasses on the "Intersection of Music-Technology, Improvisation and Global Rhythms"

- Day-long Residency at Champlain College, Burlington, VT (2018)
- Two Day Residency at Bennington College, VT (2018)
- Masterclass at LaSalle College, Singapore (2017)
- Workshop at Sjuman School of Music, Jakarta, Indonesia (2017)
- Workshop at American University, DC (2016)
- Week-long Residency at Universidad Anahuac, Mexico (2015)
- Workshop at Limestone College, Gaffney, SC (2014)
- Masterclass at North West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa (2014)

- Workshop at CESFOR (Centro Studi e Formazione), Bolzano, Italy (2013)
- Week-long Residency at CMMAS (Center for Music & Sound), Morelia, Mexico (2012)
- Week-long Residency at Lamont School of Music/University of Denver, CO (2012)
- Week-long Residency at Erie Art Museum, Erie, PA (2011)
- Masterclass at Northwestern University, Chicago, University of Northern Colorado (2011)
- Masterclass at Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Mexico City, MX (2010)
- Masterclass at Concordia College, Montreal, Canada,
- Masterclass at Capital Conservatory, Columbus OH (2010)
- Masterclass at University of Alberta, Edmonton Campus (2008)
- Masterclass at Red Deer College, Alberta, Canada (2008)

## **Band Leader**

09/2017 to Current

### **Turning Jewels Into Water**

Turning Jewels Into Water is a new beat-and-ritual-based project in collaboration with Haitian percussionist/experimental electronic artist Val Jeanty. Of their music, IndieRocks wrote, "Ghostly voices, dislocated *beats* and a digital amalgam flow within their songs along with mutant dubs, polyrhythmic percussions and interferences produced by synthesizers and futuristic turntables."

- Wrote new music, published recording with FPE Records, and booked European and US tours.

## **Teaching Artist**

04/2003 to Current

### **Arts Connection, Center For Arts Education, Midori & Friends – New York, NY**

Works as a Teaching-Artist in the New York City Metro area for various Arts Education organizations.

- Active on rosters for Arts Connection, Center For Arts Education, Midori & Friends, Arts For Kids and Arts Horizons
- Taught subjects including Early Childhood Music, Snare Drumming, Mid-East/West African Percussion, Electronic Beat Production, and American Music History
- Taught grades K-12
- Designed and implemented a Music-Math interdisciplinary curriculum for 6th graders

## **Freelance Musician**

04/2000 to Current

### **Various**

Toured, performed and recorded with a wide range of musicians including pop-star Shakira, Jazz saxophonists Kalaparusha (AACM), Sabir Mateen, Will Connell, bassists William Parker, Pablo Aslan and Wilbur Morris, trumpeter Roy Campbell, Pianist Ursel Schicht, violinists Jason Kao Hwang, Sam Bardfeld, Skye Steele, Tanya Kalmanovitch, cellist Greg Heffernan, trombonist Rick Parker, Rapper Napoleon Solo, and the rock band Fulton Lights.

## **Band Leader**

02/2003 to 11/2017

### **Tarana**

Tarana was a shape-shifting band whose past lineups included oud, violin, viola, cello and bass. The final lineup featured Rick Parker (trombone/synth) and blurred the boundaries between the electronic and the acoustic. Drawing on a vast array of influences ranging from Jazz to Bollywood and utilizing digital and analog electronics, the duo layered live loops, harmonies, textures, and lush ambience on top of tight-knit acoustic instruments to create a symphonic sound that explores rhythms from across the world.

- Wrote music for Quartet, Trio and Duo versions of the band
- Recorded for CleanFeed, NotTwo, Plasma Torus & Wondermachine Records
- Toured all over the US, Canada, Mexico, Europe and Asia
- Awarded Marsico Fellowship for Residency at Lamont School of Music, University of Denver, CO
- Garnered press in publications ranging from Chicago Reader, Tiny Mix Tapes, Wire UK, FACT mag, DCist & TimeOUT Hong Kong amongst other publications.

## Music Curator

### Various

Curated genre-defying line-ups at the following events:

- Rubin Museum's Sound Exhibit, entitled "Sound is Divine" (with Roshni Samlal/Kane Mathis, Muyassar Kurdi, Evan Ziporyn/Christine Southworth) [New York City, 2017]
- Out To See Festival, South Street Seaport, New York City (with Val-Inc, FKWRK, Selecta7, BKGD Audio & Tarana) [ New York City, 2016]

## Musical Background

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Began learning North Indian Classical percussion under the tutelage of Pandit Shejwal at the age of 12 in India.

Continued tabla studies with Jim Dispirito (student of Ustad Zakir Hussain) and Misha Masud (disciple of Pt. Taranth Rao) in the US.

Private drumset instruction with master-drummers Ian Froman, Bob Moses and Andrew Cyrille

## Education

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**Bachelor of Science:** Civil Engineering  
Carnegie Mellon University - Pittsburgh, PA

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## Affiliations

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- Member, Local 802, American Federation of Musicians, [2012 to Current]