

UCSB DEPARTMENT of MUSIC

University of California, Santa Barbara
Department of Music
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-6070

CONTACT:

Adriane Hill
Marketing and Communications Manager
(805) 893-3230
ahill@music.ucsb.edu
www.music.ucsb.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / APRIL 26, 2016

UCSB PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE PRESENTS "FROM A to Z (ARON TO ZAPPA)"

UCSB Percussion presents a concert spanning the alphabet of composers

SANTA BARBARA, April 26, 2016—The UCSB Percussion Ensemble will present their annual spring concert on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall on the UCSB campus. The program spans the alphabet of composers, from UCSB College of Creative Studies composition student Jack Aron to the notable Los Angeles legend Frank Zappa, with stops in between on Michael Burritt, Christopher Rouse, Maurice Ravel, and Peter Schickele. The concert's first half features a quartet for (mostly) non-pitched percussion: Michael Burritt's *The Doomsday Machine*, inspired by an episode of the original *Star Trek* TV series. Rounding out the first half is a duet for marimbas on Ravel's *Alborado del gracioso*, and Jack Aron's *Galaxies* for full ensemble, plus guest pianist Leslie Cain, a student of Paul Berkowitz's in the DMA performance program. The presentation of Jack Aron's piece continues a tradition of developing and performing student compositions for percussion. Jack is a student of Leslie Hogan's in the College of Creative Studies Music Composition program.

The second half of the concert features three graduating percussionists, all of whom have contributed mightily to music at UCSB, specifically in the area of percussion performance with a number of ensembles, including Wind Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, Jazz Ensembles, and Percussion Ensemble. Robert Deichert (Psychology) will be featured on a movement from Peter Schickele's (aka PDQ Bach) *Woodstock Sonata*, originally written for the NEXUS Percussion Ensemble. Nick Diamantides (BM, Percussion) will be tested by Frank Zappa's appropriately titled *The Black Page*, a written-out solo for drumset originally written to test drummer Terry Bozzio, and then extended to include other instruments because Frank Zappa "thought that other people would enjoy playing the melody of *The Black Page*, too." (The title *The Black Page* refers to the density of the notes on the page, making for a page that looks more black than white.) Bassist Nick Herskovitz, a member of UCSB's Jazz Ensemble, assists. Finally, Andrew Manos (CCS Composition) will channel the memory of iconic rock drummer John Bonham in Christopher Rouse's *Bonham*, a tribute to this drummer's influence on rock and music history, and will feature the entire 8 member UCSB Percussion Ensemble as accompaniment to the drumset solo. The UCSB Percussion Ensemble consists of Sabastian Johnson, Nick Diamantides, Andrew Manos, Dominick DiCesare, Robert Deichert, Ranjan Dalao-Bhadra, Helena Che, and Brian Morones with Jon Nathan, Director.

UCSB Percussion Ensemble: "From A to Z (Aron to Zappa)". Wednesday, May 18, 2016. 7:30 p.m. UCSB Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall. Tickets: general (\$10), non-UCSB students with ID (\$5), UCSB students with ID (FREE), children under 12 (FREE). Tickets may be purchased at the door, at the AS Ticket Office window (UCEN Room 1535, across from Corwin Pavilion), online at www.music.ucsb.edu, or by calling the AS Ticket Office at (805) 893-2064.

About the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music

From an institution that began life dedicated to training the next generation of music educators, to what is now a fully established research and professional graduate program, graduates of the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music have distinguished themselves both nationally and internationally. Many have gone on to teaching, either privately or in outstanding secondary school positions, and in more recent years,

graduates have joined the faculties of major colleges and universities in the United States and abroad. A number have become widely recognized and published scholars; some are now prize-winning and frequently performed composers, while others are writing for television and film. Alumni are also establishing fine reputations as conductors of orchestras, opera, and choruses. Graduates of the instrumental programs have gone on to solo and orchestral careers with leading orchestras, and our singers can be heard in opera companies around the world.

With over 200 events presented annually, the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music offers something for every music lover. The department boasts 26 unique performing ensembles, each with a quarterly concert calendar. Chamber music, large ensembles, opera, contemporary groups, world music, and jazz ensembles make up the department's rich performance calendar, along with lectures, master classes, and presentations from the ethnomusicology, musicology, theory, and composition programs. For a complete listing of performances and lectures for the quarter, please visit the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music website, at www.music.ucsb.edu.

For additional information, photos, or to request an interview with an artist, please contact Adriane Hill at ahill@music.ucsb.edu or (805) 893-3230. To sign up for the Department of Music's newsletter, please [click here](#). Follow the Department of Music on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

###