



## THIRD COAST PERCUSSION

Owen Clay Condon

Robert Dillon

Peter Martin

David Skidmore



Praised by Time Out Chicago for “chops, polish, and youthful joy in performing,” **Third Coast Percussion** uses an impressive array of percussion instruments to create a performance experience like no other. With exceptional talent and dedicated artistry, this “sonically spectacular” (Chicago Tribune) quartet combines the driving intensity of drums, the beautiful warmth of marimbas and vibraphones, and the surprisingly exotic sounds of everyday objects to make music that is playful, memorable and profound. In performances around the country, the Chicago-based ensemble has swiftly gained national attention for effortlessly combining the energy of a rock concert with the precision and sophistication of classical chamber music.

**Third Coast Percussion** presents concerts for all audiences, from the percussion novice to the contemporary music aficionado. Third Coast has introduced percussion music to chamber music series in Chicago (Rush Hour Concerts, Millennium Park, Chicago Cultural Center), Virginia (Garth Newel Music Center), Pennsylvania (Dickinson College), and Wisconsin (Taliesin), securing immediate invitations to return to each of these series. TCP has also championed some of the most formidable repertoire for percussion including the music of Luciano Berio, Philippe Manoury, Wolfgang Rihm, Louis Andriessen, Martin Bresnick, George Crumb, Arvo Pärt, Steve

Reich, Frederick Rzewski, Toru Takemitsu, Tan Dun, and Iannis Xenakis. The ensemble is constantly adding new works to this already expansive repertoire.

Upcoming and recent appearances include University of Notre Dame – DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, Music on the Edge (Pittsburgh), Museum of Contemporary Art (Chicago), Le Poisson Rouge (New York), Garth Newel Music Center (Virginia), Dusk Variations: Millennium Park – Pritzker Pavilion (Chicago), Round Top Percussion Festival (TX), and Taliesin – Frank Lloyd Wright (WI). Highlights of the upcoming 2011–12 season include a major focus on the percussion music of John Cage in celebration of his centenary in 2012. Third Coast is also active in developing new works. Future premieres include commissioned works by Glenn Kotche, Augusta Read Thomas, and ensemble member David Skidmore.

The members of **Third Coast Percussion**—Owen Clayton Condon, Robert Dillon, Peter Martin, and David Skidmore—hold degrees in music performance from Northwestern University, the Yale School of Music, the New England Conservatory, and Rutgers University.

Third Coast Percussion performs exclusively with Pearl/Adams Musical Instruments and Vic Firth sticks and mallets.



## Press

“...sonically spectacular...”  
–*Chicago Tribune*

“One of Chicago’s most notable chamber ensembles...a tour-de-force performance...”  
–*Sequenza 21*

“...they absolutely nailed it all.”  
– *Consequence of Sound (New York City)*

“One of the country’s finest new music ensembles...”  
–*Chicago Reader*

“...chops, polish, and youthful joy in performing...”  
–*Time Out Chicago*

“[Third Coast Percussion] filled the auditorium with so much sound it was as if an orchestra was performing...leaving their Richmond audience eager and buzzing for their next visit.”  
–*Commonwealth Times (Richmond, VA)*



### CHICAGO CLASSICAL MUSIC

May 30, 2011

*Kathryn J. Allwine Bacasmot*

It takes three primary ingredients in perfect ratios for a concert to go from great to excellent: talent, energy, and creativity. Hands down, each performer present was talented, and we are spoiled with talented musicians on a nearly nightly basis here in Chicago. Energy, however, that “capacity for vigorous activity” is not always as palpable as it was in the hands of Peter Martin, Owen Clayton Condon, Robert Dillon, David Skidmore....

<http://www.chicagoclassicalmusic.org/review/2011/5/30/third-coast-percussion-tim-munro-mayne-stage>

## Sequenza 21/

*The Contemporary Classical Music Community*

May 25, 2011

*Rob Deemer*

The concert was well-programmed with a healthy balance between new works and older works by George Crumb, John Fonville, and John Cage...Cage’s simplistic, almost monochromatic instrumentation and non-melodic excursions were brought to life through Third Coast’s intense performance.

<http://www.sequenza21.com/2011/05/third-coast-percussion-join-with-8bbs-tim-munro-on-the-mayne-stage-in-chicago/>



## **Recent and Upcoming Performances (Partial Listing)**

### **2011-12**

Dusk Variations – Millennium Park, Chicago, IL  
Garth Newel Music Center, Hot Springs, VA  
Taliesin Centennial Celebration, Spring Green, WI  
Nightnotes Series, Detroit, MI  
Queens University, Charlotte, NC  
Furman University, Greenville, SC  
Dickinson College Guest Artist Series and Residency, Carlisle, PA  
Chicago Cultural Center  
Horizons Series, Flagstaff, AZ  
Taliesin West, Scottsdale, AZ.  
Lake Forest Lyrica, Lake Forest, IL

### **2010-11**

Garth Newel Music Center, Hot Springs, VA  
Virginia Tech University, Blacksburg, VA  
Fred Jones, Jr. Museum of Art, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK  
Dickinson College Guest Artist Series, Carlisle, PA  
Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI  
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL  
Music on the Edge, Pittsburgh, PA  
University of Louisiana–Monroe, Monroe, LA  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL  
McMurry University – Chamber Music America Residency, Abilene, TX  
EMPAC, Troy, NY  
Le Poisson Rouge, New York, NY

### **2009-10**

Lake Forest Lyrica, Lake Forest, IL  
Taliesin, Spring Green, WI  
Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY  
Rocky River Chamber Music Society, Rocky River, OH

### **2008-09**

University of Illinois, Urbana, IL  
University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY  
Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, TN  
University of North Texas, Denton, TX  
Roundtop Percussion Festival, Round Top, TX  
Texas A&M University–Commerce, Commerce, TX

## **Upcoming Projects**

### **Percussion Music of John Cage**

DVD/CD release on MODE Records. Projected Release – Spring 2012.

### **Augusta Read Thomas**

A new commissioned work celebrating cultural interdependence, scored for bells from an array of historical periods and cultures. Scheduled premiere September 2012.



## Teaching and Community Engagement

The members of Third Coast Percussion are dedicated to communicating their passion for music to the next generation of performers, composers, and concertgoers.

Members of the ensemble are on faculty at the Peabody Conservatory, Virginia Commonwealth University, Northeastern Illinois University, Loyola University, and the Merit School of Music. The ensemble has worked as a Cultural Partner for the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra's CONNECT



program and the Urban Gateways Center for Arts Education in Chicago. Third Coast Percussion has presented dozens of master classes for percussionists, composers, and other arts students at universities, colleges and conservatories across the country.

### College/ Conservatory Composition Departments

Composing for percussion requires a level of attention to minutiae and detail that is difficult to master without first-hand experience. Third Coast offers the opportunity for student composers to explore new possibilities through seminars, student composition readings, interactive workshops, performances of student works, and more.

### College/ Conservatory/High School Master Classes and Coachings

Students work side-by-side with members of Third Coast Percussion, drawing on the ensemble's collective performance experience with both standard repertoire and new works. Issues addressed include chamber music skills, musical and historical context, performance technique and more. General music seminars on 21<sup>st</sup> century performance, music entrepreneurship, "life after school", and more are also available.

### Grade School Performance

Third Coast Percussion's educational programming celebrates the extraordinary array of musical styles and historic periods represented in the percussion family, including orchestral music, military drumming, ragtime, West African music, and much more. Through a format involving active audience participation, students are offered a unique hands-on experience as they learn about the incredibly diverse world of percussion music. Appropriate for high school, middle school, elementary school, and pre-school.