



**COLLEGE OF
PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS**

SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

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Feel the Rhythm at the SUU Percussion Ensemble Concert

by Lola Taylor

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: The Southern Utah University (SUU) Percussion Ensemble presents its fall concert on Monday, November 21, 2016 at 7:30 pm in the Thorley Recital Hall. Tickets are free and the performance is open to the public.

The SUU Percussion Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Lynn Vartan, Director of Percussion at SUU, perform historically significant works for percussion, contemporary percussion literature, novelty percussion and traditional non-western percussion music. The ensemble is comprised of both music majors and non-majors and welcomes students with a variety of experience.

Marissa Brown, a senior Bachelor of Music major who is graduating in the spring, said, "The hardest part of preparing for this concert has been the responsibility! Dr. Vartan let the upperclassman coach some of the songs this year, so we got to be in charge. It was fun stepping into the leadership role, but gave it a new feeling rather than just 'doing my part.'"

Music for this program includes some exciting and challenging percussion compositions. *Stool Pigeon* by Julia Davila is an exciting piece played entirely on bar stools. *Rocket Summer* by Dan Moore is a great play on Martian science fiction movie scores. The tour de force of the evening's program will be *Pyroclastic Steam* by Dave Hall.

Dr. Vartan said, "*Pyroclastic Steam* is really cool and big and ambitious!" She is very excited to have her Percussion Ensemble perform such a challenging piece.

Lindsey Maxwell, a freshman Music Education major, is performing with the Percussion Ensemble for the first time in the fall concert. She said, "I am amazed at how good it sounds when we get all the way through without stopping. It's nice to play with everyone in the group! All the percussionists are so much fun!"

When asked why the community should come to the Percussion Ensemble concert, Marissa Brown said, "You don't have to be a musician to enjoy percussion music. Anyone that has a heartbeat will enjoy rhythm and drumming. Sit back and enjoy one of the most primal music forms that has only grown more exciting over time. I hope to see you there!"

About the College of Performing and Visual Arts

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, and Dance. The College also offers programs in Theatre Arts, graduate programs in Arts Administration and Music, as well as a Center for Shakespeare Studies. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Music Education and Master of Music in Music Technology graduate degrees. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring nearly 600 majors in the College. Over 1,100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents over 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), Utah Shakespeare Festival and SUU's Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit www.suu.edu/pva.

For Calendar Editors: Feel the Rhythm at the SUU Percussion Ensemble Concert

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- Who:** SUU Percussion Ensemble
- When:** Monday, November 21, 2016
- Time:** 7:30 PM
- Where:** Southern Utah University Thorley Recital Hall
- Tickets:** Free admission
- Info:** For more information, please visit www.suu.edu/pva.

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