For thirty-three seasons, The Oregon Percussion Ensemble has performed and championed the classical percussion chamber music of John Cage, Meyer Kupferman, Lou Harrison, Edgard Varèse, Frank Zappa, Steve Reich, Iannis Xenakis, William Kraft, Edison Denisov and many other modern masters. The Oregon Percussion Ensemble records on the Soundspell/Albany, record label and has been nominated for the Laurel Leaf Award by the American Composers Alliance in New York City “for distinguished achievement in fostering and encouraging American Music”. Broadcast performance include WGBH Boston, “The Art of the States” heard in 40 countries worldwide, on NPR (National Public Radio), and on network television. The Oregon Percussion Ensemble has been featured twice at Percussive Arts Society International Conventions (PASIC) and the group has performed on tour in Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Jose, Seattle, Boise, Palo Alto, Spokane, Portland and throughout Washington, California, Idaho and Oregon. Members of The Oregon Percussion Ensemble have trained at The Juilliard School, Eastman, New England Conservatory, Manhattan School of Music, Peabody, Paris Conservatory, USC School of Music, Indiana University-Bloomington, University of Illinois, San Francisco Conservatory, San Francisco, and San Jose State Universities, to name a few. Former percussionists from The Oregon Percussion Ensemble perform in the Eugene Symphony Orchestra, in recording studios and concert halls throughout the U.S.A. and in Europe, Mexico and Canada.

Percussionist Charles Dowd is a Philip H. Knight professor of music at the University of Oregon School of Music and principal timpanist of the Eugene Symphony, Oregon Bach Festival Orchestra, Oregon Festival of American Music Orchestra, and Oregon Coast Music Festival. For thirty years he was a principal with the Cabrillo Music Festival in California. He is principal timpanist on the Grammy winning recording Credo by Penderecki with Helmuth Rilling and the Oregon Bach Festival. Dowd’s avant-garde percussion music has been broadcast worldwide on WGBH (Boston) “The Art of the States” as well as national broadcasts on NPR. His training includes doctoral residency at The Juilliard School, Lincoln Center, New York with famed New York Philharmonic timpanist Saul Goodman, and a master’s degree from Stanford as a student of Anthony J. Cirone of the San Francisco Symphony. Dowd has performed in Carnegie Hall, Wilhelm Theatre in Stuttgart, and recorded regularly at RCA Studios in New York City.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE

Room 163 Music Saturday afternoon
2:00 p.m. March 15, 2009

UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
W. Sean Wagoner, director
Charles Dowd, music director

featuring

Grayson Fiske, solo marimba
Merlin Showalter, drumset soloist
Alli Bach, tap dancer
Eli Copeland, bass

* * *

109th Season, 81st program
PROGRAM

Raptures of Undream (1998)  
for six percussionists  
Bruce Hamilton  
(b. 1966)

Ostinato Pianissimo (1934)  
for percussion band  
Henry Cowell  
(1897–1965)

Wind in the Bamboo Grove (1984)  
Keiko Abe  
(b. 1937)

Grayson Fiske, marimba

Tambuco (1964)  
for six percussion players  
Carlos Chávez  
(1899–1978)

The Black Page Drum Solo (1976)  
Merlin Showalter, drumset

Alli Bach, tap dancer  
Eli Copeland, bass

The Black Page, Part II (1976)  
Frank Zappa

THE UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

The University Percussion Ensemble is one of two classical percussion ensembles at the School of Music. The University Percussion Ensemble is devoted to the performance of standard percussion ensemble repertoire which balances the avantgarde music performed by The Oregon Percussion Ensemble. Percussionists majoring in music perform in both of the two percussion ensembles.

W. Sean Wagoner, conductor, is instructor of percussion studies at the University of Oregon School of Music and holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in percussion performance from the University of Oregon. Wagoner is principal timpanist of the Oregon Mozart Players, principal percussionist of the Eugene Opera Orchestra, and is a member of the Eugene Symphony percussion section. He also performs as a freelance artist with the Oregon Symphony, the Oregon Bach Festival, and the Cascade Festival of Music. Wagoner’s recording credits include: Percussionist, the Grammy Award-winning Hänssler recording of Krzysztof Penderecki’s Credo, with the Oregon Bach Festival; Multi-percussionist, George Crumb’s An Idyll for the Misbegotten and Iannis Xenakis’ Persephassa for broadcast worldwide on WGBH Boston’s Art of the States and Radioemisoras 96.5 FM XIII Festival de Música Contemporánea in Santiago, Chile; Drummer, the Platinum selling album Zoot Suit Riot: The Swingin’ Hits of the Cherry Poppin’ Daddies.

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UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE 2008-2009 Season

W. Sean Wagoner, Conductor  
Charles Dowd, Music Director  

Carl Burnstein*  
Nina Calhoun*  
Grayson Fiske*  
Ben Hampton*  
Evan Marquardt*  
Cory Miner*  
Paul Owen*  
Taylor Parrish*  

Susan Richardson*  
Torrin Rosegold*  
Dustin Shilling*  
Merlin Showalter*

* performing today  
# soloist today