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COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
SPRING 2009 PERFORMANCES AND EXHIBITIONS



Percussion Ensembles Concert Guest Artist She-e Wu, Marimba

Sunday, April 5, 3:00 p.m.

Griffin Concert Hall, University Center for the Arts

1400 Remington St., Fort Collins, Colorado

\$10, \$5/CSU Students, \$5/Youth (ages 6-17)

"The CSU Percussion Ensemble concert will be one of the strongest presentations to date," says Eric Hollenbeck, Assistant Professor of Percussion. "Plus, it will be a fun concert."

The opening piece, Michael Burritt's *Doomsday Machine*, is named after a second-season Star Trek episode in which a massive machine called the Doomsday Machine eats alien planets. The piece, a "rhythmic dance full of metal and drum skin sounds," musically represents the machine's reign and ultimate destruction when Captain Kirk feeds the machine an aged starship.

Rain Tree by Toru Takemitsu uses two marimbas, vibes and a series of crotales, or small tuned metal discs, of various sizes to create the image of water droplets falling from a tree. "Beautiful imagery and sonorities are achieved," says Hollenbeck, "Coupled with lighting effects that make this one of the best pieces in the Percussion Ensemble repertoire."

The great rock drummer John Bonham inspires *Bonham* by Christopher Rouse, a piece written around the drum beats of the Led Zeppelin band member described by the Encyclopedia Britannica as "the perfect model for all hard rock drummers that have followed him." The drum set is the focal point of the piece, which features a large and spectacular ensemble of drums as well as a closing high-energy drum set solo in the style of the Led Zeppelin song *Moby Dick*.

Night Watch by Joseph Blaha evokes similar moods and melodies of a Brahms symphony. The four-movement work for marimba orchestra features the traditional percussion instruments found in the percussion section of a symphony orchestra.

Marimba soloist She-e Wu and a percussion quartet close the concert with *Blue Identity*, a composition by Ms. Wu. The very rhythmic piece, which premiered in Paris at the Journées de la Percussion festival, features several accelerandos and Ms. Wu's predilection for visual entertaining.

Members of the Percussion Studies Program at Colorado State perform literature in all styles and idioms of music, while developing musicianship, technical proficiency, cultural awareness, and technological literacy. Experience an exciting afternoon of eclectic sounds, styles, and instruments with the talented CSU Percussion Ensemble!

About She-e Wu

She-e Wu is the Associate Professor of Percussion at the Northwestern University Bienen School of Music in Evanston, Illinois. Prior to her appointment at Northwestern University, Ms. Wu was Associate Professor of Music and Chair of Performance and Jazz Faculties at the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey; Assistant Professor of Music at West Virginia University in Morgantown; and has also taught at the University of North Texas. [READ MORE](#)

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