

Meet Me at the UCA

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



World Percussion Ensembles Concert

Thursday, April 16, 7:30 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)

Now in its 10th year of existence, the CSU Steel Band was the first collegiate steel band in Colorado. Don Prorak, CSU Steel Band director, says the ensemble “continues to explore the many facets of pan music, rooted in the traditions of its homeland of Trinidad & Tobago, while embracing the contributions of the world-wide pan community.”

The program also includes the CSU African Drum Ensemble featuring performers in the Percussion Studies Program, a performance by the Concert band percussion section and Freshman G.H. Hamilton Rag band.

About Steel Pan Music

The steel pan or steel drum is the national musical instrument of Trinidad and Tobago. Pans are constructed by pounding the top of the oil drum into a bowl-like shape, which is then tempered over a fire until it is “white hot” and allowed to cool. Then the notes are laid out, shaped, grooved, and tuned with a variety of hammers and other tools. The note’s size corresponds to the pitch - the larger the oval, the lower the tone, and the size of the instrument varies from one pan to another.

About Don Prorak

Don Prorak’s musical career has included virtually all aspects of percussion, but he now focuses almost exclusively on steel pan. He leads Pan Jumbies, as well as Toco Bay with marimbist Jim Theobald, and founded steel band programs with his own collection of steel pan instruments at both Colorado State University and Brighton Heritage Academy. Prorak has travelled to Trinidad and Tobago many times to perform with some of the nation’s top steel bands and pan artists. He has recorded & produced 2 CDs with Pan Jumbies, “Say It With Pan”, and “Jam It With You”. Prorak holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from the University of Illinois in Urbana, and a Master of Music degree in Percussion Performance from DePaul University.

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