



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

USA PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
SPRING CONCERT

FEATURING GUEST FACULTY BLAKE TYSON

Luis Rivera, director

Matt Greenwood, assistant director

Parallel (2012)	Brian Nozny (b. 1977)
Trio (in a rudimental style) (2006)	Joseph Tompkins (b. 1970)
Postludes for Bowed Vibraphone (2012)	Elliot Cole (b. 1984)
6.	
3.	
4.	
8.	
Dance Music for Elfrid Ide (1940)	John Cage (1912-1992) edited by Don Gillespie
I.	
II.	
III.	
Moonrise (2012)	Blake Tyson (b. 1969)
1. The Moon Holds My Heart	
2. The First Time I Saw The Moon	
Cloud Forest (2008)	Blake Tyson

RECITAL HALL
LIDLAW PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
Monday, April 15, 2013
7:30 p.m.

USA Percussion Ensemble Personnel

Ryan Boehme
Ben Ivey
Jacqie Rotch

Jessica Foster
Ian Jones
Luke Smith

Alex Gordnier
Bryant Ramey

Dr. Blake Tyson is currently the Professor of Percussion at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway, Arkansas. He received the DMA degree from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, and was also awarded the prestigious Performer's Certificate. He also holds a Master of Music degree from Kent State University and a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Alabama.

Dr. Tyson's multifaceted career has led to several international performances to various cities in Europe, Africa, South America, and Asia, in addition to being frequently sought after all over the United States for his captivating performances on the marimba. He has performed and presented masterclasses at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention, the Northwest Percussion Festival, the Leigh Howard Stevens Summer Marimba Seminar, and at numerous Days of Percussion festivals throughout the states. He is also an experienced orchestral percussionist, currently serving as Principal Percussion with the Conway Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Tyson's musical endeavors also travel outside of America with the study of the derabucca with composer/performer Halim El-Dabh. He has devoted intensive study to El-Dabh's unique notational system for the instrument as well as the different performance techniques required.

In addition to being a brilliant performer and outstanding educator, Dr. Tyson is equally proficient in composing works for percussion, both solo and chamber pieces. His works *Vertical River*, *Anubis*, *A cricket sang and set the sun*, *A Ceiling Full of Stars*, *Firefish*, *Inside the Shining Stone*, *Cloud Forest*, and most recently, *Moonrise*, are quickly becoming staples in the contemporary percussion ensemble repertoire. Probably the easiest way to describe Dr. Tyson's music is that it is sensitive, beautiful, and it effectively captures the essence of whatever emotion is tied to any of his works. Dr. Tyson is a proud endorser of Mallettech instruments and Zildjian cymbals.