

Meehan/ Perkins Duo

Duo Bio

The Meehan/ Perkins Duo has grown out of a collaboration started in 1999 as graduate students at the Yale School of Music. That initial meeting brought about the group So Percussion, hailed by the New York Times as “consistently impressive.” In that time, they performed at venues such as the Bang on a Can Marathon, the BAM Next Wave Festival, the Cleveland Museum of Art, Miller Theatre, The Round Top Festival, and the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival among others.

Todd and Doug are committed to the process of creating new works for percussion and have worked with many of today’s leading composers. They are currently working on new pieces from Lukas Ligeti and David Lang as well as looking for new collaborations.

The duo’s performances in the coming season will include concerts throughout the Northeast including a recital in New York City and a comprehensive tour of Texas and surrounding states. In their collaboration with So Percussion the two have recorded for Cantaloupe Music.

Artist Bios

Todd Meehan

Todd Meehan is Director of Percussion Studies at the Baylor University School of Music. He is an active solo, orchestral, and chamber musician with performances throughout the United States, Europe, and Japan. From 1999 to 2003 Todd served as a founding member of So Percussion presenting concerts and masterclasses around the country. He has worked with composers Steve Reich, David Lang, Christopher Rouse, James Wood, and Lukas Ligeti, and has commissioned numerous works for solo and chamber percussion.

As an orchestral musician Todd has performed under conductors Christoph Eschenbach, Michael Tilson Thomas, Robert Spano, Peter Ounjidian, Gunther Schuller, and Myung Whung Chung. He currently serves as Principal Timpanist with the Waco Symphony Orchestra and Percussionist with the baroque period ensemble, Orchestra of New Spain.

Performance credits include the Bang on a Can Marathon, the BAM Next Wave Festival, Miller Theater’s Composer Portrait Series, the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, the Round Top International Festival-Institute Chamber Music Series, the Rocky River Chamber Music Series, the Open Ears New Music Series, the New England Gamelan Festival, and the Percussive Arts Society International Convention. Additionally, he has performed live on WNYC’s New Sounds hosted by John Schaefer.

Todd received his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Texas at Austin, his Master of Music degree from Yale University, and is currently completing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Texas at Austin. His teachers include Robert van Sice, George Frock, James Ross, and Michael Green.

Douglas Perkins

Douglas Perkins specializes in new works for percussion, most notably as a founding member of So Percussion. This has taken him to stages and festivals throughout North America and Europe including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Spoleto USA Festival, the Walker Art Center, and the World Expo in Lisbon, Portugal.

His collaborations focus on the creation of new music for percussion. Along those lines, he has worked with such composers as David Lang, Steve Reich, Steve Mackey, John Zorn, Lois Vierk, Martin Bresnick, Stuart Saunders Smith, Evan Ziporyn, John Luther Adams, and the Minimum Security Composers Collective. He has performed with the International Contemporary Ensemble, Ethel, Alarm Will Sound, the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, Ballettech, The Percussion Group Cincinnati, and Max Roach's percussion group M' Boom. Additionally, Doug has been heard on NPR stations throughout the US and has recorded for Cantaloupe Music and Summit Records.

Currently, Douglas teaches percussion at Dartmouth College and has also performed residencies and given masterclasses at such institutions as Julliard, Yale, Princeton, the University of Texas, and Peabody.

Doug received his Bachelor's degree from the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music with Jim Culley, and the Masters and Artist Diploma degrees from Yale University, where he studied with Robert Van Sice.