

12-2-2013

Concert: Ithaca College Percussion Ensemble and Steel Band

Ithaca College Percussion Ensemble

Ithaca College Steel Band

Dean Witten

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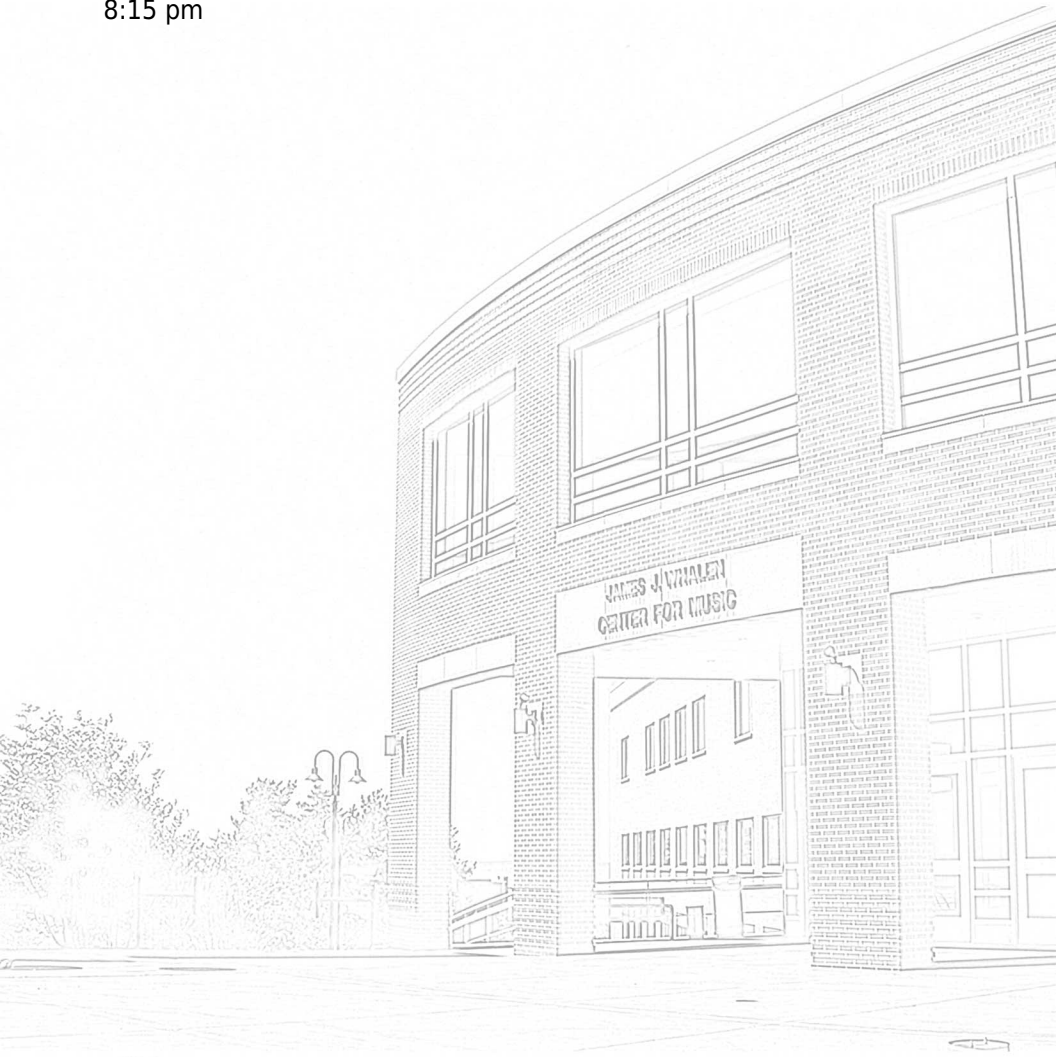
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Ithaca College Percussion Ensemble and Steel Band

Dean Witten, guest conductor

Ford Hall
Monday December 2nd, 2013
8:15 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Stealing Thunder (1999-2000)

Robert Paterson

Like ClockWork (2012)

Jennifer Higdon
(b. 1962)

Intermission

Pair of Ducks

Thom Hasenpflug

The Salty Spittoon

Circe Survice
arr. Nick Merillat

Appreciation

Andy Narell

Big Wagon

The Dixie Chicks
arr. Nick Merillat

Dean Witten

Dean Witten has been Professor of Percussion and Director of Percussion Studies at Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey since 1979. He has given the world premier performances of more than forty works for percussion. Presently freelancing in New York City, Mr. Witten has been principal percussionist of Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra and has performed with the American Symphony Orchestra, American Composers Orchestra, New York Chamber Orchestra, NY Virtuosi, New York Pops, Queens Symphony Orchestra, Metropolitan Opera Guild and many Broadway theater orchestras. As a performer on Baroque timpani, he has recorded the Haydn Creation with the Pro Artis Ensemble, a New York ensemble specializing in the use of period instruments. Dean has been a member of the percussion sections of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the San Antonio Symphony and the Opera Companies of Philadelphia and Boston. As a Yamaha clinician, he has been invited to perform at two Percussive Arts Society Conventions. In 1990, Dean hosted the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Philadelphia and served four years on the Percussive Arts Society Board of Directors. He toured the world as a member of Frank Sinatra's Orchestra for almost eight years and has performed with the Count Basie Orchestra, the Buddy Rich Band and the Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra. He has been heard in the Broadway pit orchestras of *Porgy and Bess*, *Les Miserables*, Baz Luhrmann's production of Puccini's *La Boheme*, *A Catered Affair*, *Sweet Charity*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The King and I*, *Cyrano the Musical*, *The Secret Garden*, *Oklahoma*, *Tommy*, *Promises Promises*, *Dracula the Musical*, *City of Angels*, *An Inspector Calls*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Blood Brothers*, and *Grand Hotel*. You can hear Dean on recordings by Frank Sinatra (Duets), Frank Sinatra Jr., Harry Connick Jr., Celine Dion, Denis DiBlasio, Betty Buckley, Linda Eder and others, as well as on the movie soundtracks to *Femme Fatale* (w/Antonio Banderas), *Lucky Numbers* (w/John Travolta), *Snake Eyes* (w/Nicholas Cage) and *The Godfather 3*. Mr. Witten was a member of the staff orchestras at Resorts International, Tropicana and Sands Hotel Casinos in Atlantic City where he performed with Peter Allen, Paul Anka, Susan Anton, Frankie Avalon, Burt Bacharach, Charlie Callas, Diahann Carroll, Perry Como, Petula Clark, Rosemary Clooney, Bill Conti, Vic Damone, Sammy Davis Jr., Dom Deluise, Jose Feliciano, Fifth Dimension, Aretha Franklin, Mitzi Gaynor, Robert Goulet, Joel Grey, Joey Heatherton, Clint Holmes, Lena Horne, Englebert Humperdink, Lanie Kazan, Carol Lawrence, Jerry Lewis, Liberace, Gloria Loring, Patti Lupone, Rich Little, Melissa Manchester, Dean Martin, Johnny Mathis, Maureen McGovern, Liza Minelli, Anthony Newley, Wayne Newton, Tony Orlando, Patti Page, Lou Rawls, Don Rickles, Joan Rivers, Neal Sedaka, Frank Sintara, Steve and Edye, Keely Smith, Connie Stevens, Leslie Ughams, Ben Vereen, Dionne Warwick, Barry White's Love Unlimited Orchestra, Paul Williams and

others. He can also be heard on nationally broadcast television commercials for Smith Barney, Right Guard, Visa, the U.S. Postal Service and NBC Nightly News. Dean Witten performs exclusively on Yamaha Percussion Instruments and Zildjian Cymbals with Mike Balter Mallets and Pro-Mark Drumsticks.

Personnel

Will Alderman
Chris Demetriou
Andrew Garay
Taylor Katanick
Kellen King
Will Marinelli
Julia McAvinue
Nick Merillat
Dennis O'Keefe
Keegan Sheehy
Tom Smith
Aaron Walters