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### Concert: Ithaca College Percussion Ensemble and Steel Band

Ithaca College Percussion Ensemble and Steel Band

Gordon Stout

Benjamin Cordell

Gifford Howard

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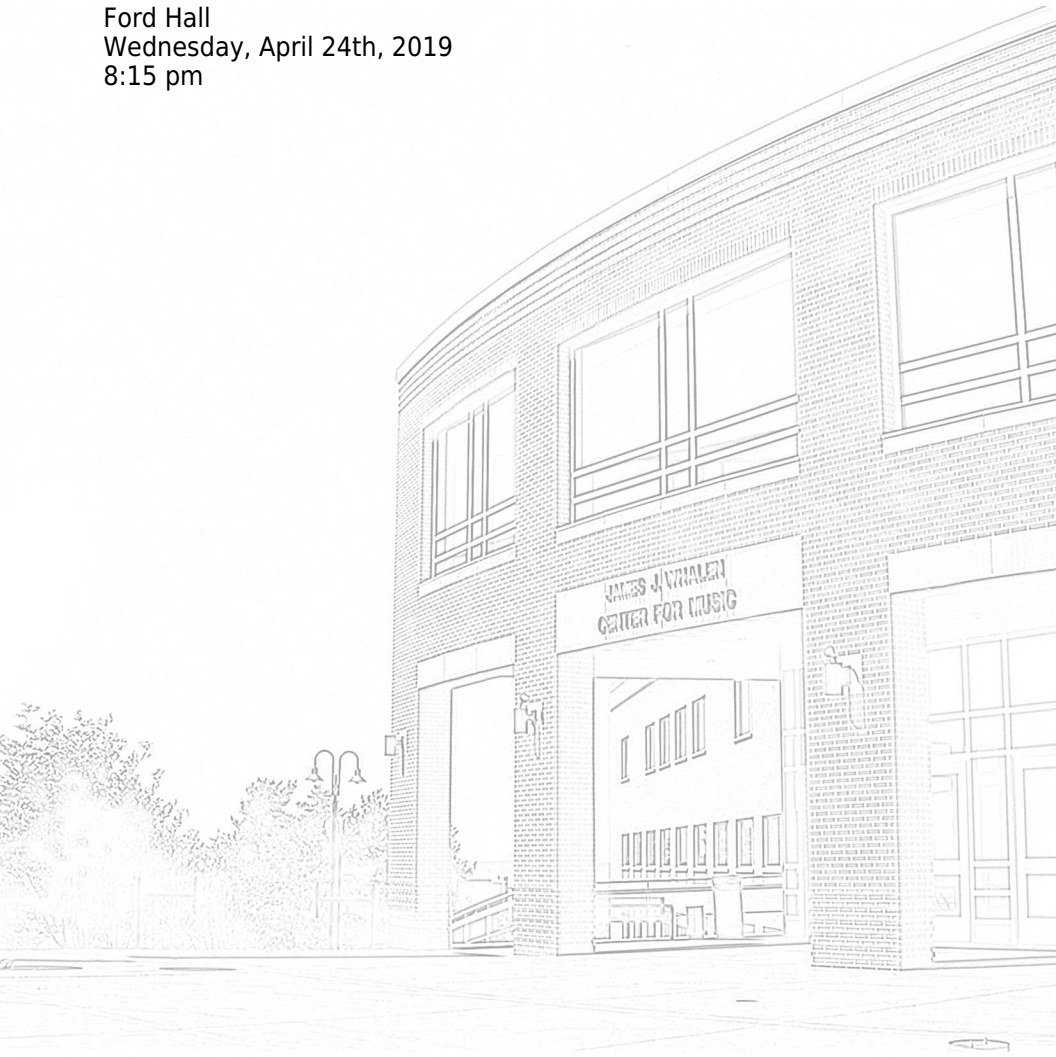
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# Ithaca College Percussion Ensemble and Steel Band

Gordon Stout, director  
Ben Cordell, Steel Band director  
Gifford Howard, guest marimba soloist

Ford Hall  
Wednesday, April 24th, 2019  
8:15 pm



**ITHACA COLLEGE**

School of Music

# Program

<i>12-Tone Trap</i> Premiere Performance	Josh Oxford (b. 1985)
<i>The Sublimation of Dreams</i> Premiere Performance To Dean Witten in memoriam	James Ieraci (b. 1973)
Concerto for Marimba with percussion orchestra I. <i>Gifford Howarth, marimba</i>	Daniel Levitan

## Intermission

### **Ithaca College Steel Band selections from the following:**

<i>Mesa Drive</i>	Emily Lemmerman
<i>Jungle Rain</i>	Jeff Narell arr. John Wooton
<i>Dingoly</i>  <i>Ally Brown, vocalist</i>	Jeff Narell arr. John Wooton (Dates)
<i>Confusion Reggae</i>	Cliff Alexis
<i>We Are Not Alone</i>	Frank Zappa arr. Mike Myers/Ben Cordell

## Biographies

Dr. GIFFORD HOWARTH is currently Associate Professor of Percussion at Bloomsburg University located in Bloomsburg, PA. His previous teaching duties included teaching at Michigan State University and Nazareth College (Rochester, NY).

Dr. Howarth has received degrees from Michigan State University (DMA), Kent State University (MM), and Ithaca College (BM). He has presented clinics and workshops throughout the United States, Canada, Asia, and Europe including Singapore, China, Thailand, The Netherlands, Sweden, and Malaysia. He has also presented at The Midwest Clinic in Chicago, The Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC), several MENC All-State Conferences and PAS Day of Percussion events. The focus for most of the workshops is geared around percussion education.

Dr. Howarth is heavily involved in different competitive marching activities. He was on the percussion staff for the DCI group, THE CADETS from 1999 to 2006. Over the years he has written for several WGI, BOA, and DCA ensembles. He is currently a national adjudicator for DCI, WGI, and BOA along with several state-wide marching band and indoor percussion circuits.

Dr. Howarth is a National Yamaha Performing Artist, a Signature Artist for the Vic Firth Company, and a clinician for Remo Percussion and the Zildjian Cymbal Company. He has several works published through Tap Space publications.

JAMES IERACI (b.1973) has been hailed as a "creative and evocative new voice" by the Santa Barbara Independent. Ieraci received a Ph.D. and M.A. in Music Composition from the University of California: Santa Barbara. He also holds undergraduate degrees in Music Composition and Music Education from Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey. He studied composition with Harold Oliver, William Kraft, Curtis Roads and Karen Tanaka, and drums and percussion with Dean Witten and William Kraft.

Ieraci's compositions, which are published by Penn Oak Press,

have been performed by numerous percussion ensembles in the USA and Mexico, violinist Sarn Oliver of the San Francisco Symphony, mezzo- soprano Jody Kidwell, the Philadelphia Settlement Players, and Members of the Ensemble Green. His pieces have been performed on the Society of Composers Inc., Southern California Electronic Music Exchange, and Electronic Music Midwest conferences. In addition, Ieraci also composes music for films.

As a percussionist Ieraci has performed with William Kraft on the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC), on CBS with The Hindu Cows, in concert and on DVD with dancer Sidnie Charnaw, and as a soloist with the Rowan University Orchestra. Ieraci has performed with many ensembles including: The Atlantic Brass Band, The Philharmonic of Southern New Jersey, UC Santa Barbara's Middle-Eastern Ensemble and Ensemble for Contemporary Music, and numerous rock, jazz and fusion bands. Ieraci concertized in the Los Angeles area with recording artist Sheetal.

Dr. Ieraci has taught at The University of California: Santa Barbara, Chapman University, in Orange California, and Burlington County College in New Jersey, where he conducted the Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Percussion Ensemble. Currently Ieraci is working on a short film that memorializes his undergraduate percussion teacher, Dean Witten.

**The Sublimation of Dreams** refers not only to the instant one transcends from the world of nocturnal imaginings to the waking world, it also refers to the dissolution of one's own hopes in a time of woe. In March 2018, this meaning was realized when my undergraduate percussion professor died after a battle with cancer. Upon hearing the news, I decided to dedicate this piece to my mentor, Dean Witten.

### **Personnel**

Grace Asuncion  
Ujjal Bhattacharyya  
Benjamin Brown-McMillin  
Scott Bruce  
Benjamin Cordell  
Leah Gardner

Alex Hoerig  
Julia Lavernoch  
Giancarlo Levano  
Bennett Maupin  
Katie McInerney  
Emma Scheneman  
Daniel Syvret