

# ELIZABETH SOFLIN, DMA

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## EDUCATION

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### **Doctor of Musical Arts: Music Performance**

#### **Doctoral Minor: Historical Musicology**

**2017**

The University of Arizona Fred Fox School of Music

D.M.A. Document:

*Words as Music, Music as Text: Stuart Saunders Smith's Works for Percussion and Spoken Word*

Performing Ensembles:

Percussion Ensemble, Malleus Percussion Group, Steel Band, Rosewood Marimba Band, Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, CrossTalk Electronic Percussion Ensemble, Collegium Musicum

### **Master of Music: Music Performance**

**2012**

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Performing Ensembles:

Percussion Ensemble, Steel Band, Wind Ensemble, Orchestra

### **Bachelor of Music: Music Performance**

**2009**

Central Michigan University

Performing Ensembles:

Percussion Ensemble, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Orchestra

### **Principal Percussion Teachers**

Dr. Norman Weinberg, Professor of Percussion, University of Arizona

Dr. Andrew Bliss, Assistant Professor of Percussion, The University of Tennessee

Dr. Andrew Spencer, Professor of Percussion, Central Michigan University

Chris Wabich, Adjunct Professor of Music, University of Arizona  
studies in Irish bodhran

Keith Brown, Senior Lecturer of Percussion, The University of Tennessee  
studies in drumset

## COLLEGIATE AND SECONDARY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **Pusch Ridge Christian Academy: Director of Percussion/Assistant Band Director 2015-**

#### Courses:

#### Advanced (High School) Band

Responsibilities include conducting some full band rehearsals, oversight of concert percussion ensemble, percussion technique classes/individual lessons, and marching percussion ensembles/staff. Extracurricular responsibilities include direction and music arrangement for Threefold Indoor Percussion and assisting with jazz band rehearsals.

#### Middle School Bands (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Symphonic Band and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Concert Band)

Responsibilities include assisting with full band rehearsals and oversight of concert percussion ensembles/percussion technique classes

#### Grammar School (5<sup>th</sup> Grade) Band

Responsibilities included assisting with full band rehearsals and oversight of percussion technique classes

Major Accomplishments:

Student participation in the 2017/2019 Percussive Arts Society International Conventions  
Student participation in Percussive Arts Society Arizona Chapter Days of Percussion  
Commissioned chamber music for percussion for student performance  
Established the school as a Percussive Arts Society Member Organization  
Established a yearly percussion recital

Student Accomplishments:

Hayden Sawyer (Class of 2019)  
Received scholarship funds to study percussion at Grand Canyon University  
Received Caption Award for performance at 2018 AZPAS Fall Day of Percussion  
Accepted to march tenor drums with Phenom SoundSport and Flux Indoor Percussion  
Kolin Tersey (Class of 2020)  
Received scholarship funds to play with large ensembles at California Baptist University  
Alex Fleming (Class of 2021)  
Winner of George P. Contreras, Jr. PASIC Scholarship  
Received scholarship money from the University of Arizona band program based on performance at district solo and ensemble festival

**The University of Arizona: Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**2013-2015**

Courses:

MUS 153 – Percussion Instruments Class  
Responsibilities included all curriculum design, selection of materials, in-person instruction, and written/applied assessments for the course  
MUS 182/282/382/482 – Applied Lessons  
Responsibilities included all curriculum design and in-person instruction, as well as serving on the percussion faculty jury panel each semester

Ensemble Instruction:

University of Arizona Percussion Group: Assistant Conductor  
Malleus Graduate Percussion Group: Artistic Director  
Responsibilities included oversight of all programming, publicity, and scheduling for the ensemble, which was comprised of MM and DMA students. Major projects included a celebration of the music of Iannis Xenakis and a performance of Paul Lansky's *Threads*.

**The University of Tennessee, Knoxville: Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**2009-2012**

Courses:

MUPF 150/151 – Applied Lessons  
Responsibilities included all curriculum design and in-person instruction, as well as serving on the percussion faculty jury panel each semester. Additionally, I was tasked with overseeing transportation of equipment to concert venues on- and off-campus.  
MUED 230 – Class Percussion Methods  
Responsibilities included administrative duties and lecturing on course material.

Ensembles:

MUEN 310 – Percussion Ensemble: Assistant Conductor

**ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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Tucson Youth Music Center: Percussion/Drumset Instructor	2015-
Tucson Summer Music: Volunteer Percussion/Piano Instructor	2014-2015
Pusch Ridge Christian Academy: Percussion Instructor/Drumline Coach	2013-2015

Tucson Unified School District (Sam Hughes Elementary): Percussion Instructor	2012-2013
Knoxville Symphony Youth Orchestra: Percussion Rehearsal Coach	2010-2012
Bearden High School: Front Ensemble Instructor	2011
Central Michigan University Summer Music Camp: Percussion Instructor	2009
Croswell-Lexington High School: Drumline Instructor	2005-2009
Beal City Community Schools: Percussion Instructor	2008-2009

## **SELECTED ARTISTIC ACTIVITY – Performances and Masterclasses**

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### **2019:**

Tohono Chul Concerts in the Garden Series Solo Recital

Arizona Percussive Arts Society Day of Percussion

Presented a clinic on sightreading at the Fall Day of Percussion Event

Transplanted Roots Percussion Research Symposium

Invited to perform Stuart Saunders Smith's *By Language Embellished, I*

Marimba + Voice Festival – Orem, UT

Flagstaff Symphony – Flagstaff, AZ

Acting principal for April concert cycle

Arizona Philharmonic – Prescott, AZ

Oh My Ears Festival – Phoenix, AZ

Selected as a performer with the Weiss/Soflin Duo

Black House Collective Composition Workshop – Phoenix, AZ

Selected as a performance fellow for Black House's 16th Annual New Music Workshop

Northwest Missouri State University – Springfield, MO

Invited to give a masterclass and recital

### **2018:**

Sierra Vista Symphony Association Music at Twilight Concert Series – Sierra Vista, AZ

Flagstaff Symphony – Flagstaff, AZ

Benderly-Kendall Opera House – Patagonia, AZ

Recital with the Weiss/Soflin Duo for the Patagonia Fall Festival

Sierra Vista Symphony – Sierra Vista, AZ

The University of Virginia – Charlottesville, VA

Invited by composer Matthew Burtner to perform his work *Profiled from Atmospheres* as part of *Technosonics*, a UVA concert series exploring music as it intersects with technology

The University of Nevada – Las Vegas, NV

Invited to teach a masterclass and perform a recital as a guest artist

## 2017:

Arizona State University – Tempe, AZ

Recital with the Weiss/Soflin Duo (saxophone/percussion), including the premieres of Matthew Burtner's *Profiled from Atmospheres* and Evelyn Pursley-Kopitzke's *Fantasia*

Pusch Ridge Christian Academy – Tucson, AZ

Performance of Gary Ziek's *Concerto for Percussion Solo* accompanied by the Wind Ensemble

The University of Akron – Akron, OH

Invited by Smith Publications to perform Christian Wolff's "Exercise 26" and "Exercise 27" at a festival honoring the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of The Noble Snare

Arizona School for the Arts – Phoenix, AZ

Recital with the Weiss/Soflin Duo

Benderly-Kendall Opera House – Patagonia, AZ

Recital with the Weiss/Soflin Duo

Utah Valley University – Orem, UT

Presentation – "The music of Stuart Saunders Smith", Solo recital – "Music and/as Spoken Word"

## 2016:

The University of Tennessee – Knoxville, TN

Masterclass – "The Texted Percussion Music of Stuart Saunders Smith", guest solo performance for percussion studio recital

Zuzi! Dance Theatre – Tucson, AZ

Performed Christos Hatzis' *Fertility Rites* with dancers from the Ballet Conservatory Tucson

Arizona Senior Academy – Tucson, AZ

Recital with the Weiss/Soflin Duo

Tempe Center for the Arts – Tempe, AZ

Recital for *Performance with a View Concert Series* with the Weiss/Soflin Duo

Firecreek Coffee Company – Flagstaff, AZ

Recital for *Interference Series* – "Transcending Language: The Music of Stuart Saunders Smith"

Christian Youth Theatre Orchestra – Tucson, AZ

## 2015:

St. Philip in the Hills – Tucson, AZ

Recital with Weiss/Soflin Duo, including world premiere of Derick Evans' *Nil Fosse Five*

Maker House – Tucson, AZ

Recital in collaboration with poet Tere Fowler Chapman for *Church of Beethoven Concert Series*

Tucson Repertory Orchestra – Tucson, AZ

## 2014:

Tucson Museum of Art – Tucson, AZ

Solo recital – "The Music of Stuart Saunders Smith"

Northern Arizona University – Flagstaff, AZ

Solo recital/masterclass

## **CREATIVE ACTIVITY: Publications and Recordings**

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Percussive Notes	2019
Soflin, Elizabeth. "The Noble Snare, Revisited." <i>Percussive Notes</i> 57, No. 2 (May 2019): 12-14.	
Four/Ten Media	2017
Recording of Matthew Burtner's <i>Profiled from Atmospheres</i>	
Arizona Public Media	2017
Interview with the Weiss/Soflin Duo for Arizona Spotlight Program	
Society for American Music Bulletin	2015
Soflin, Elizabeth L. "Stefan Wolpe and the Avant-Garde Diaspora." Review of Stefan Wolpe and the Avant Garde Diaspora, by Brigid Cohen. <i>The Society for American Music Bulletin</i> 41, No. 2 (Spring 2015): 24- 26.	

## **CREATIVE ACTIVITY: Commissioning**

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### **2020:**

*Garbage Brain* by Adam Silverman  
Percussion Quintet with Piano, organizer of consortium comprised of music educators

### **2018:**

*Metal Light* by Paul Lansky  
Percussion Solo, member of consortium led by the Percussive Arts Society

*Sunlight hits parlor wall* by Neal Warner  
Duet for saxophone and percussion

*Delicious-Looking* by Adam Scott Neal  
Solo for percussion and spoken word

### **2017:**

*Profiled from Atmospheres* by Matthew Burtner  
Duet for Percussion/Saxophone with Interactive Electronics, organizer of consortium using Kickstarter

*Fantasia* by Evelyn Pursley-Kopitzke  
Duet for Marimba/Alto Saxophone

*Museum of Patterns* by Brooks Frederickson  
Percussion Solo, member of consortium led by Jason Treuting

### **2016:**

*Easter in Bingham* by Stuart Saunders Smith  
Duet for Speaking Vibraphonist/Offstage Alto Saxophone, premiered at the University of Arizona as part of lecture recital about the music of Stuart Saunders Smith

### **2015:**

*Nil Fosse Five* by Derick Evans  
Duet for Vibraphone/Tenor Saxophone

*Composition Machine No. 1* by Mark Applebaum  
Percussion Solo with indeterminate elements, member of consortium led by Dr. Terry Longshore

2011:

*Edge of the Earth* by Nicholas Powell  
Double Marimba Concerto

2009:

*Jungle Dance: That Girl Can Scat* by Benjamin Laur  
Keyboard Percussion Trio

## **PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT AND ENSEMBLES**

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Percussive Arts Society New Music & Research Committee Member	2019-
Percussive Arts Society Arizona Chapter President	2019-
Black Swamp Percussion: Performance Artist Endorsement	2016-
Mike Balter Mallets: Performance Artist Endorsement	2016-
The Weiss/Soflin Duo	2012-
Percussive Arts Society: Member	2005-
Society for American Music: Member	2014-2016

## **OTHER EDUCATION**

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Stuart Saunders Smith Intensive: Performance Fellow	2013
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Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp: Staff Ensemble Member	2008
Masterclasses and Additional Studies	
Doug Smith – Utah Valley University	2015
Morris Palter – University of Alaska, Fairbanks	2014
David Skidmore –Third Coast Percussion	2014
James Campbell – University of Kentucky	2013
Casey Cangelosi – James Madison University	2013
Pedro Carneiro – International Percussion Soloist	2013
Keith Aleo – Interlochen Center for the Arts	2011
Eric Millstein – Lyric Opera of Chicago	2011
Doug Howard – Dallas Symphony Orchestra	2009
Mark Douglass – The University of Tennessee	2009
Bob Becker – NEXUS Percussion Group	2008
Svet Stoyonov – University of Miami	2008