

BEVERLEY JOHNSTON, Percussion

Short Biography

Canada's premier percussionist Beverley Johnston is internationally recognized for her virtuosic and dynamic performances on a wide range of percussion instruments. Her exciting performances have been distinguished as unconventional, effectively combining classical transcriptions, contemporary music, and a touch of theatre; she is also a leader in commissioning and premiering new works for percussion. Her performances and recordings have been broadcast on radio networks all over the world; her five solo CDs are *Ming* (2009, Centrediscs); *Garden of Delights* (2004, independent release); *Alternate Currents* (1992, Centrediscs); *Marimbach* (1989, CBC Records Musica Viva); and *Impact* (1986, Centrediscs, JUNO nominee). She can also be heard as soloist or chamber musician on numerous other recordings.

Beverley Johnston's schedule is booked a couple of years in advance, and includes performances in Canada, the United States, South America and Europe. She will also work on a recording project for release in 2012, involving newly commissioned works by 5 prominent Canadian composers.

Beverley has been a guest performer at several marimba/percussion festivals recently including the Shenyang International Percussion festival (2010) in China, The International Marimba Festival and Conference in Minneapolis, USA (2010), The Zeltsman New Music Project (2009) and Nebojsa Zivkovic's International Marimba Academy in Germany (2008).

Among Beverley's other performing interests, she has been keen in developing her passion for performance collaborations, which have included the combination of dance, movement, art and theatre. She is constantly expanding the boundaries of what is possible as a performing artist.

In 2009 she was given the distinction of becoming an Ambassador of the Canadian Music Centre in honour of her exemplary commitment to the performance of the music of Canadian composers.

Beverley Johnston currently teaches at the University of Toronto and lives in rural Ontario with her husband, composer Christos Hatzis. Their home includes a percussion studio that can finally fit all of her exotic instruments! Beverley is a Marimba One and Paiste Artist.

For more information, please visit www.beverleyjohnston.com.