

# PRESTON BEEBE

*Composer / Percussionist / Music Technology*

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Languages : English, French



## ARTIST STATEMENT

I have always been interested in nature and natural formations. Watching plants grow into prosperous nutrition we can ingest to create energy. How energy in turn creates motion. I am fascinated by sound and the microscopic features that make it living and have a personality, a trajectory, adapting or rejecting elements like an living organism. This influences me to continue to discover new ways to interact with sound.

I feel we are living in a particularly unique time period where technologies have developed to a point where possibilities are limitless. By utilizing technology, imagining and exploring new possibilities beyond what is known, I find my inner approach to cultivate new sounds and ways in which to express them.

## BIOGRAPHY

Preston Beebe is a composer and percussionist who uses technology at the forefront of his work. His artistic approach involves audio feature extraction, organic processes, microscopic and invisible elements and how they interact in space and time. Spanning chamber, live-electronic, acousmatic, art installation, improvisation, and site-specific performances, his work has been performed in France, Spain, England, Greece, Canada, and the USA.

Preston is the recipient of the 2012-2014 CIRMMT Award to develop a digital percussion instrument using audio feature extraction and to compose a series of works for it. From 2014-2015, he attended CURSUS 1 at IRCAM, and composed a work for baritone saxophone & electronics, performed at the Centre G. Pompidou in Paris.

Preston holds a masters in music composition from McGill University; bachelors in music composition, electronic music, and percussion performance from the University of South Florida. He has studied composition with Philippe Leroux, Hector Parra, Chihchun Chi-sun Lee; percussion with Robert McCormick; lessons and workshops with Brian Ferneyhough, Chaya Czernowin, Yan Maresz, Trevor Wishart, Augusta Read Thomas, and Dai Fujikura. In April of 2011, Preston released an album of his acousmatic music entitled, [Glisten](#).

As a drummer and percussionist, Preston has backed many notable artists such as Johnny Mathis and Kevin Mahogany and ensemble such as the Florida Orchestra, Sarasota Orchestra, Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, Plumes Ensemble, O Som Do Jazz, Helios Jazz Orchestra, McCormick Percussion Group, and the Volta Trio.

He has recorded numerous albums of diverse musical styles ranging from indie, pop, electronic, classical, and avant-garde. He can be heard performing with the McCormick Percussion Group on the albums, [Music For Keyboard Percussions](#) and [Concerti For Strings With Percussion Orchestra](#), distributed through Naxos. On Kohlenstoff Records with his percussion duo 4eyes "[mountain](#)" and with his piano & percussion duo [Whim](#).

## EDUCATION

2014 – 2015	<b>IRCAM CURSUS 1</b> , Paris, France Professors – Composition: Hèctor Parra & IRCAM Pedagogical Team
2011 – 2014	<b>McGill University</b> , Montréal QC, Canada MMus degree in Music Composition, Supervisor: Philippe Leroux
2006 – 2010	<b>University of South Florida</b> , Tampa, FL USA BM degree in Percussion Performance, Music Composition, and Electronic Music Supervisors – Percussion: Robert McCormick, Composition: Paul Reller, Michael Timpson

## RESEARCH

Fall 2012 – Present  
Fall 2012 – Present  
Fall 2012 – Present

**Audio Feature Extraction**, CIRMMT, Montréal, QC  
**Unsounding Objects**, composition series for a digital percussion instrument, CIRMMT, Montréal, QC  
**SpectraSurface**, digital percussion instrument, CIRMMT, Montréal, QC

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Winter 2014  
Winter 2013  
Fall 2011, Fall 2012  
Winter 2012  
2006 – 2009  
2004 – Present

**McGill University – MUCO 342 - Digital Studio Composition 2**, Montréal, QC  
**McGill University – MUAR 211 - The Art of Listening**, Montréal, QC  
**McGill University – MUCO 341 - Digital Studio Composition I**, Montréal, QC  
**McGill University – MUAR 201 – Basic Materials of Western Music 1**, Montréal, QC  
**Lakewood Ranch High School Percussion Section**, Bradenton, FL  
**Private Percussion & Composition Instructor**

## AWARDS

2014  
2012-2014  
2011-2012  
2008-2009  
2006-2010  
2006  
2005

Lise-Hélène Larin Drawing Award (*Seen, Unseen & Music Box*) with Audrey Larin, Concordia  
CIRMMT Interdisciplinary Award & Directors Prize: *Unsounding Objects*  
Eric Award, most outstanding composer in the Digital Composition Studio, McGill University  
Electronic Music award for most outstanding composer for the 2008-2009 year at USF  
USF Talent Scholarships for both performance and composition  
John Phillips Sousa Award for most outstanding graduating senior at Lakewood Ranch High School  
Awarded most outstanding jazz drumset player at State Jazz Band Competition in Florida

## COMPOSITION

7/11/2015  
4/2/2015  
7/1/2014  
11/13/2013  
5/14/2013  
4/28/2013  
4/3/2013  
3/20/2013  
2/7/2013  
4/15/2012  
4/3/2012  
4/16/2011  
4/16/2011  
4/11/10

**intakes, for Baritone Saxophone & Electronics**, Festival SaxOpen, Cité de la Musique, Strasbourg, Fr  
**intakes, for Baritone Saxophone & Electronics**, IRCAM, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, Fr  
**Unsounding Objects no. 1-2, for SpectraSurface**, NIME 2014, Goldsmiths, University of London, England  
**Unsounding Objects no. 2, for SpectraSurface**, PASIC 2013 Tech Day, Indiana University-Perdue IN USA  
**Hélesphériques, for Wind Ensemble**, FACE Concert Hall, Montréal, QC  
**Collisions: musique pour orchestre de haut-parleurs**, Eastern Bloc, Montréal, QC  
**Tourmaline, for 6 percussionists & electronics**, Pollack Hall, Montréal, QC  
**transmission, interrupted, for cello & electronics**, Tanna Schulich Hall, Montréal, QC  
**Unsounding Objects no.1, for SpectraSurface**, LIVE@CIRMMT, Montréal, QC  
**Tourmaline, for 6 percussionists & electronics**, USF Concert Hall, Tampa, FL  
**transmission, interrupted, for cello & electronics**, Montréal, QC  
**Preston Beebe | Glisten**, Acousmatic Composition Album  
**Preston Beebe Electro-Acoustic Ensemble**, Hideaway Cafe, St. Petersburg, FL  
**Composition/ Electronic Music Recital**, USF Tampa, FL

## PERCUSSION

9/17-9/30 2015  
9/29/2012  
2/10-12/2012  
11/3/2011  
2/24-26, 3/9-11/2011  
3/4 – 3/6/2011  
2/5/2011  
1/28 – 1/30/2011  
9/20/2010 – 10/9/10  
2/24 – 2/27/2010  
2010  
  
10/2009  
8/2008 – 5/2010  
8/2006 – 5/2010

**Koumaria Residency**, Percussionist & improviser, Peloponnese, Greece  
**4eyes | mountain, percussion duo CD**  
**The Florida Orchestra**, Tampa, FL  
**Volta Trio**, Georgetown University, Washington DC  
**The Johnny Mathis Show**, Florida Tour, Avon Park, Jacksonville, Ft. Myers, Sarasota, FL  
**The Florida Orchestra**, Opera Pops: Conductor – Stuart Chafetz, Tampa Bay, FL  
**Charlotte Symphony Orchestra**, Conductor - Toshimasa Francis Wada, Punta Gorda, FL  
**Sarasota Orchestra**, Masterworks Concert #4: Conductor – Leif Bjaland, Sarasota, FL  
**“Chicago”**, Riverview, FL  
**USF Wind Ensemble tour to CBDNA conference**, Conductor – John Carmichael, Oxford, MS  
**McCormick Percussion Group: Music for Keyboard Percussions CD**, Tampa, FL  
Marimbist: Conductor – Robert McCormick, Label: Ravello Records  
**The Florida Orchestra**, Masterworks Concert #1: Conductor – Stefan Sanderling, Tampa Bay, FL  
**Helios Jazz Orchestra**, Director – David Manson  
**McCormick Percussion Group**, Conductor – Robert McCormick, Tampa, FL

## LIST OF WORKS

### LARGE ENSEMBLE

*Hélesphériques* – Wind Ensemble (2013) 6'30"  
*Cimmerian Horizons* – Wind Ensemble (2010) 4'30"  
*Turritella* – fl, cl, ob, bcl, h, pn, 2v, c, b, 1 perc (2009) 5'30"

### MEDIUM ENSEMBLE

*Beneath Trees* – String Quartet & Electronics (2014) 17'  
*Tourmaline* – 6 Percussionists & Electronics (2012) 9'  
*Requiescence* – Violin, Cello, 4 Percussionists (2010) 5'20"  
*Smile* – Open Instrumentation & Electronics (2010) 5'30"  
*We Say Goodbye, You Say Hello* – fl, cl, vibe, pn, v, c (2010) 1'

### SMALL ENSEMBLE

*Thyme* – Bass Flute & Percussion (2014) 1'10"  
*Mixed Signals* – Percussion Trio (2007) 3'  
*Got No Strings* – Violin & Cello (2007) 8'30"

### VOCAL

*The Moon* – SATB Choir (2008) 3'30"  
*Simplicity* – Baritone Voice & Piano (2008) 2'30"

### SOLO

*intakes* – Baritone Saxophone & electronics (2015) 7'  
*Unsounding Objects* no. 2 – SpectraSurface [digital percussion instrument] (2014) 4'30"  
*Unsounding Objects* no. 1 – SpectraSurface [digital percussion instrument] (2013) 8'15"  
*transmission, interrupted* – cello & electronics (2012) 7'  
*Piano Miniatures* – piano (2008) 4'  
*Fugitive* – bassoon (2007) 2'15"

### ACOUSMATIC

*Mindsweeper* (2011) 13'11"  
*Deluge* (2011) 5'46"  
*Beluga* (2010) 5'10"  
*Prey* (2010) 5'  
*larmes silencieuse s'envolent* (2009) 4'46"  
*Swarm* (2009) 4'05"  
*Lunar Debris* (2009) 3'51"  
*Nautilus* (2009) 4'46"  
*Glisten* (2008) 2'15"  
*Birds of the Asylum* (2007) 2'15"

### COLLABORATIVE WORKS

*Unsounding Objects* – for SpectraSurface (2012 – present)  
*SEEN, UNSEEN* – installation: Audrey Larin (2014)  
*Music Box* – installation: Audrey Larin (2014)  
*Beluga* – digital art: Terrence Balsingh (2010)  
*larmes silencieuse s'envolent* – digital art: Terrence Balsingh (2010)  
*Swarm* – digital art: Terrence Balsingh (2010)  
*Glisten* – acrylic painting: Philip Pietri (2010)  
*Lunar Debris* – oil painting: Ryan Florence (2010)

## DISCOGRAPHY

**Preston Beebe & Ofer Pelz** | *Whim*, Kohlenstoff Records, June 2016  
**Plumes Ensemble** | *Folk Songs and Future Loves*, December 2014

**4eyes (Preston Beebe/Ryan Packard) | *mountain***, Kohlenstoff Records, September 2012  
**McCormick Percussion Group | *Concerti for Strings With Percussion Orchestra***, March 2012, NAXOS(794504369618)  
**Preston Beebe | *Glisten***, April 2011, iTunes, CDbaby (885007191278)  
**McCormick Percussion Group | *Music for Keyboard Percussions***, February 2010, NAXOS (705105326863)  
**Philip Pietri & The Manatees | *Beach Jazz EP***, June 2009