

together. Accordingly, they are able to think and play as one. The words "twine" and "twin" are, of course, closely connected, and musical twins, Morten and Uffe, they are indeed. The notation gives the two the freedom to shape the evolution of the music in the moment of playing. But at the same time it demands absolute technical brilliance, an almost telepathic rhythmic contact, and a highly developed musical intuition. I knew I would find these qualities in the Safri Duo, and I was not disappointed.

Reflections on Japanese Children's Songs III (2004).

"During my childhood, the town was filled with vigor. It was at this time that a lively spirit and energy were present. This is diminishing – I no longer hear the voices of children playing outside, or that of the street vendors. These days, it has changed to the sounds of cars and lonely stillness. Folksongs and their lively sounds are still in my mind, but I also attempt to explain the sounds of the present age in this piece."
– *Keiko Abe*

Reflections on Japanese Children's Songs is an expansion upon one of Keiko Abe's most popular marimba solos. This version scored for marimba duo and percussion is a theme and variations that draws upon the same two folksongs as the solo; *Tōryanse* and *Teru teru bōzu* (let me pass).

Thank You

This performance is dedicated to Kelli Rowe, who made my time here possible and my music mean something.

Dean Gronemeier, and Timothy Jones for your patience, direction, and instruction. I respect both of you immensely.

Alex Stopa for your intense work ethic, your music, and your friendship.

Clare Birmingham, for introducing me to *Toward the Sea*.

Steve and Charlie, for their time and dedication.

The percussion family, I love you guys.



Presents a

Master's Recital

Ryan Simm,

percussion

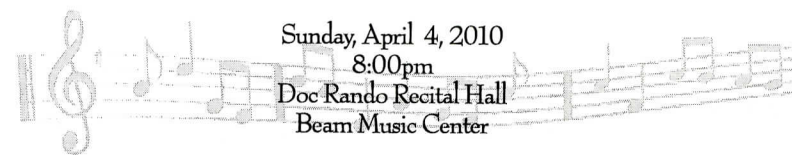
with

Alex Stopa, marimba

Clare Birmingham, alto flute

Charlie Gott, percussion

Steve Ferradino, percussion



~ PROGRAM ~

Thirteen Drums for percussion solo, op. 66 Maki Ishii
(1936-2003)

Toward the Sea Toru Takemitsu
(1830-1996)
Adapted for marimba and flute by Ryan Simm

Twine Rolf Wallin
(b. 1957)

Reflections on Japanese Children's Songs III Keiko Abe
(b. 1937)

*This concert is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree
Master of Music in Performance.
Ryan Simm is a student of Dean Gronemeier and Timothy Jones.*

Thirteen Drums for percussion solo, op. 66 (1985)

"I intended to return to the internal theme of percussion, the return to the hitting of drums, the original point of percussion and to seek the new space-time by the employment of determinate and indeterminate rhythms." – *Maki Ishii*

Thirteen drums is a *tour-de-force* percussion solo scored for twelve drums of any uniform timbre, and one pedal mounted bass drum. Maki Ishii's "space time" is illustrated through the combination of the large set up and fast tempi, generating large physical movements that manifest in a choreographic spandrel.

Toward the Sea (1981)

Originally scored for guitar and flute, this work is divided into three sections—*The Night*, *Moby Dick*, and *Cape Cod*. These titles are in reference to Herman Melville's novel *Moby Dick*, or *The Whale*. The composer wished to emphasize the spiritual dimension of the book, quoting the passage, "meditation and water are wedded together." He also said that, "The music is a homage to the sea which creates all things and a sketch for the sea of tonality"; *Toward the Sea* was written at a time when Takemitsu was increasingly returning to tonality after a period of experimental composition.

Most of the work is written in free time, with no bar lines (except in the second version, to facilitate conducting). In each version, the flute has the primary melodic line, based in part on a motif spelling "sea" in German musical notation: E flat-E-A.

Twine for xylophone and marimba (1995)

Two streams of sound, both emerging from the same physical substance - wood - but still slightly different: the bright and hard versus the dark and soft. Two streams twisting and twining, separating and merging, opposing and caressing, two streams living their own separate lives, but still influenced by the other.

The piece was commissioned by the Danish Radio for Safri Duo and is tailor-made for two musicians who have played hundreds of concerts