

Melanie Sehman | Drummer, Percussionist, Composer

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Recent Projects as Lead/Co-Lead Performer/Composer

MANtrio – composition and improvisation collective, 2019-present

Work created or co-created for this ensemble: *October-Tanka*, *If I Told Him*, *December*, *March*, *Norman Ray Dellecker*, *Upon the Earth*, *Of Bodies Changed*, and several graphic scores

Cat Valley – four-piece pop punk band, 2017-present

SymSynComCon – improvised music for percussion duo, 2017-2018

Recent Work as Side Performer

The Unknowns – five-piece vocal harmony group playing contemporary swing, blues and R&B covers and originals, 2018-present

Nuages – modern jazz manouche, 2018-present

Whatcom Sound Jazz Singers – vocal jazz choir, 2017-present

Hooves and Beak – harp and violin-led folk-pop quartet, 2017-2019

Recent Classical and Chamber Music

Pacific Northwest Opera, multiple productions, 2014-present

Bellingham Symphony Orchestra (formerly Whatcom Symphony), co-principal percussion, 2014-present

Contemporary chamber music events organized by Erin Jorgensen (SEA), 2018-2019

Bellingham Chamber Music Society – contemporary chamber music, 2014-2019

Bellingham Festival of Music, 2014

Dr. Faustus (NYC) – contemporary chamber music for piano and percussion, 2013

Proper Glue Duo (NYC) – new music for percussion duo, 2004-2013

Nouveau Classical Project (NYC) – experimental and electro-acoustic chamber music, 2011

West Coast Performances

Treefort Music Festival, 2022

Earshot Jazz Second Century Series, 2020

Wayward in Limbo Series, 2020

Racer Sessions, 2019, 2021

Jazz Center of Bellingham (formerly WJMAC)

Jazz Walk Festival, 2019

Royal Room, 2019

Washington Hall chamber music series, 2019

Manouche NW Series, 2018

Seattle Improvised Music Festival, 2018

NUMUS Northwest at Cornish College, 2018

Bellingham Alternative Library, 2017-2021

Bellingham Electro-Acoustic Music Festival,
2011

Wayward Music Series, 2011

East Coast Performances

DiMenna Center (NYC), 2013

Firehouse Series (NYC), 2013

Make Music New York at Miller Theater, 2011

Bang on a Can Marathon (NYC), 2011

Barbés (NYC), 2011

Park Avenue Armory, 2011

Issue Project Room (NYC), 2011

Symphony Space Peter Jay Sharp Theater, 2011

The Americas Society (NYC), 2011

Princeton University, 2011

Bang on a Can Summer Festival, 2009 and 2011

Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, 2009

Recordings

Monster EP, Hooves and Beak, February 2022

Drinking on the Bleachers EP, The Unknowns, December 2021

Feral EP, Cat Valley, November 2021

“Clear Vision,” Myrrum, recorded 2021 *forthcoming release*
“Cheating, Lying, Stealing” (video), for Second Inversion (SEA), 2019
“Tight Sweater” (video), for Second Inversion (SEA), 2019

University Performances and Masterclasses

Eastman School of Music (NY), Princeton University (NJ), Indiana University, Arizona State University, University of Arizona, Conservatorio de Música de las Rosas (Michoacan, MX), Queens College (NY), Cornell University (NY), Tufts University (MA), Hartt School (CT), University at Buffalo (NY), Stonybrook University (NY), Rowan University (NJ), University of Maryland Baltimore County, Central Washington University, Western Washington University, Montana State University, Fort Lewis College (CO), Queensborough Community College (NY), State University of New York Brockport, New Jersey City University, Nazareth College (NY), Pima College (AZ), Whatcom Community College (WA).

Artist Residencies

Hypatia-in-the-Woods Residency, Shelton, WA, 2022 *upcoming*
Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Roots & Rhizomes Program residency, 2009
Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival Fellowship, 2009

Grants

Jack Straw Cultural Center (SEA) Artist Support Program, Artist Assistance Grant, 2022
Earle Brown Foundation, *The Music of Earle Brown* concert, 2017
Washington State Arts Commission Project Grant, *Between Two Worlds* concert, 2017
CUNY Professional Staff Congress Research Foundation Grant, commission of five new works, 2007, 2013

Education

Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY
Doctor of Musical Arts, Percussion Performance and Literature, 2006
Performer's Certificate, 2005
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
Master of Music, Percussion Performance, 2001
Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA
Bachelor of Music, Percussion Performance, cum laude, 1999

Principal Teachers

John Beck, J.B. Smith, Andrew Spencer, Dave King (The Bad Plus)

Coachings

Marina Albero, Steven Schick, Steve Reich, Julia Wolfe, Billy Martin, Allison Miller, Fay Victor, Anders Loguin, Bob Becker, David Cossin, Aiyun Huang, Brad Lubman, Mark Applebaum, Robert Morris, Robert Van Sice