

JOSHUA DEKANEY BIO

At the crossroads of Texas and Brazil percussionist Joshua Dekaney weaves musical traditions with style and community. Whether on stage or in the studio, Dekaney plays multi percussion with a soulful, deft touch and a keen ear for balancing the ensemble.

Originally from Houston, Dekaney was a featured headliner of the Batuka! 2010 International Drum Fest in São Paulo. His love for Brazilian music has led him to travel extensively throughout Brazil studying folk and popular music and allowed him to work with artists Vera Figueiredo, Flavio Pimenta, & Tribores.

Since becoming an Affiliate Artist of Percussion at Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York, Dekaney has taught drumset, hand percussion, jazz improvisation, jazz combo, and Samba Laranja: The Syracuse University Brazilian Ensemble which has performed for over 14,000 public school students and been featured three times at Jazz at Lincoln Center.

His interest in diverse music has led Dekaney to work with artists Dave Valentin, Peter Cetera, Kaïssa, Jimmy Haslip, and Aretha Franklin. He has also collaborated with modern dance artists Jawole Zollar and Maia Claire Garrison, composers Michael Daugherty & Andy Waggoner, and animator Heath Hanlin. In addition, he has performed with the Pensacola Symphony Orchestra, the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, the Lexington Philharmonic, the Binghamton Philharmonic, and the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra.

Ranging from Americana to Jazz to World Music, Dekaney currently works with many groups in central New York including Grupo Pagán, the MOD trio, Samba Laranja, the Bill Horace band, and singer/songwriters Jeffery Pepper Rodgers and Wendy Ramsay.

Dekaney plays Paiste cymbals, Evans drumheads, Vic Firth sticks, and Pearl drums and percussion. www.joshdekaney.com

Dekaney is a voting member of both the Academy Recording Arts & Sciences (Grammy's) and the Latin Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (LARAS).

Educational concerts

Nottingham high school. Syracuse, NY
Corcoran high school. Syracuse, NY
Watertown high school. Watertown, NY
Liverpool high school. Liverpool, NY
Ed Smith K- 8 school. Syracuse, NY
Delaware K-8 school. Syracuse, NY
HW Smith K-8 school. Syracuse, NY

Frazer K-8 school. Syracuse, NY
Seymour dual language academy. Syracuse, NY
Clary middle school. Syracuse, NY
Blodgett elementary. Syracuse, NY
Delaware academy. Syracuse, NY
Van Duyn elementary. Syracuse, NY
Cherry Road school. Syracuse, NY

Clinics and Masterclasses

The Percussion Center. Houston, TX
The Collective. New York, NY
Texas A&M-Commerce. Commerce, TX
Kutztown University. Kutztown, PA
LeMoyne College. Syracuse, NY
University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY
Batuka! International Drum Fest. São Paulo, Brazil
The Woodlands high school. The Woodlands, TX
Plano East high school. Plano, TX
Andy Dekaney high school. Spring, TX
Newman Smith high school. Dallas, TX
McKinney high school. McKinney, TX
Nottingham high school. Syracuse, NY
Corcoran high school. Syracuse, NY
Liverpool high school. Liverpool, NY
Igreja Batista de Moria. São Paulo, Brazil
Igreja Batista de Perdizes. São Paulo, Brazil
Igreja Batista de Manaus. Manaus, Brazil
Louva Rio. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Residencies

Cazenovia high school. Cazenovia, NY
Kutztown University. Kutztown, PA
Texas A&M University - Commerce. Commerce, TX
University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY