

## **MARK CLIFFORD**

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3007 Peralta St, Oakland CA 94608 [Markmclifford@gmail.com](mailto:Markmclifford@gmail.com) ph 415.368.1448 [www.markcliffordmusic.com](http://www.markcliffordmusic.com)

### **CURRICULUM VITAE**

Born in Fresno, CA, USA November 25, 1985

#### **EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Music in Percussion Performance, Lamont School of Music, Denver CO 2008

#### **STUDIES**

John Kinzie, Paul Romaine, Eric Gunnison, Matt Moran, Steve Nelson, Conrad Kehn, Tatsuya Nakatani, William Hill, Mark Foster

#### **WORKING ENSEMBLES**

##### **As a Leader/co-leader**

###### **The Dirty Snacks Ensemble**

- Eclectic Post Jazz music
- Founder/Leader/composer/vibraphone/vocals since 2007

###### **Inner Movements**

- New and Improvising music collective focused on commissioning and funding new works from up and coming composers
- Co-leader/vibraphone/percussion since 2015

###### **Two Aerials**

- Indie Music/Art songs
- Co-leader/vibraphone/compositions/electronics since 2015

###### **Gold Age**

- Creative Jazz quartet comprised of Vibraphone/drums/bass/alto saxophone
- co-leader/vibraphone/composition since 2015

###### **Aunt Rose**

- Chamber style improvising and composing instrumental music trio comprised of drums/vibraphone/cello
- Co-leader/vibraphone/composition since 2016

##### **As frequent Collaborator/Performer**

###### **SF Sound**

- Well established Bay Area contemporary music ensemble
- Specializes in performances of 20/21st century large ensemble repertoire
- percussion/vibraphone/electronics since 2014

###### **Rent Romus' Life's Blood Ensemble**

- Large free jazz ensemble led by Bay Area stalwart Rent Romus
- vibraphone/composition since 2015

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### Denny Denny Breakfast

- Founded and led by Robert Ladue/eclectic art song influenced by cuban music and death metal
- vibraphone/drums/piano/percussion since 2013

### Oakland Active Orchestra

- Large instrumental collective of composers and improvisors
- vibraphone/percussion/composition since 2013

## NOTABLE PERFORMANCES 2015–PRESENT

### 2017

#### May

- Two Aerials @ Uptown Nightclub Oakland *Moonphase EP* Release show
- Brett Carson's *Mary's Dilemma or That Sinking Feeling* @ The Orange Room Oakland premiering Carson's new work for theater
- Rent Romus' *Life's Blood Ensemble* @ Penofin Jazz Festival, Ukiah, CA

#### March

- Two Aerials @ The Night Light Oakland supporting Lisa Mezzacappa's *Avant Noir* record release show
- Lisa Mezzacappa's *Organelle* @ The Exploratorium, SF premiering Mezzacappa's new work for percussion quartet

#### February

- Dirty Snacks Ensemble @ Night Light Oakland premiering new original works for a nine performer augmented iteration of the ensemble

#### January

- Inner movements @ Center for New Music SF presenting a program of original compositions for Vibraphone, Cello, & Tape

### 2016

#### Ongoing Engagements

- Gold Age @ Woods Oakland every fourth Friday

#### November

- Phillip Greenlief's *Barbwire* @ Studio Grand Oakland
- Denny Denny Breakfast @ The Independent SF for Undercover Presents Bjork's Homogenic

#### October

- Two Aerials East Coast Tour: New York, Philadelphia, Montreal, Nova Scotia, Burlington

#### September

- Inner Movements @Active Music Series Oakland, performing new work by SF composer Danny Clay

#### July

- The Dirty Snacks Ensemble @15th Annual Outsound Music Summit, SF; was a featured composer, presented a lecture and performance original music
- SF Sound @ SF Sound Festival; performing works by Morton Feldman and Earle Brown

## **June**

-Switchboard New Music festival, SF; Performances with featured artists Dominique Leone and Aaron Novik

-The Dirty Snacks Ensemble @ Peralta Station, Oakland; Album Release show for *Tidy Universe*

## **May**

-Gold Age @ Penofin Jazz Festival, CA; featured ensemble

-Sf Sound @ The Crowden School, Berkeley; performing works from the John Adams young Composers Program

## **February**

-The Dirty Snacks Ensemble NW Tour, Seattle WA

-Ellen Fullman *Past the Angels* @ The Lab, SF; performed with Ellen Fullman on the Long String Instrument

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## **2015**

### **November**

-Aunt Rose @ Center For New Music, SF; featured ensemble for the Switchboard Presents Series

-Dirty Snacks Ensemble @ The New Parish, Oakland

### **October**

-Seesaw Quartet @ Studio Grand, Oakland; west coast premier of work composed while in residence at Lijiang Studios index in New York, NY

### **September**

-Composer in residence @ City Bird Gallery, NY as part of Lijiang Studio index

### **August**

-Rent Romus' Life's Blood Ensemble @ Red Lion Arts Jazz festival, Sacramento

### **July**

-Theresa Wong, Aurelie Lierman (Amsterdam), Mark Clifford, Aram Shelton @ Studio Grand, Oakland; a performance of Lierman's work followed by group improvisation

-Inner Movements @ School Bar, Beijing China; a performance of new music from Mark Clifford and Crystal Pascucci

### **May**

-Mark Clifford's *Levity Factions* @ Center For New Music; Performing *Levity Factions* for 2 vibraphones, cello, drum set, and percussion as part of the Switchboard Presents series.

-Solo Vibraphone in collaboration with James Talambas @ Tilt Room, Fort Worth TX; Featured performer at the opening for *Bobby on the Drums*, a large scale art installation; vibraphone diffused by James Talambas through a 80+ speaker installation

### **April**

-SF Sound @ UCSC, Center For New Music; collaborating with celebrated guitarists Giacomo Fiore and Larry Polansky in a performance celebrating the just intonation work of James Tenney

-Bill Baird @ Switchboard Festival; performing vibraphone in two sets with Mr Baird, one song based, the other a large scale multi media ensemble

### **March**

-Solo Vibraphone @ Lone Ranch, Oakland

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Piano/Vibraphone/Composition**

- Professor of Piano/Drums/Composition at Reeder Music Academy, 2015-present
- Adjunct faculty in vibraphone studies at California Jazz Conservatory, 2014-present
- Private instruction in piano/composition/drum set/vibraphone/music theory, 2008-present

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### **Clinician**

- Denver School of the Arts, Denver CO 2014
- Colorado Conservatory for the Jazz Arts, Denver CO 2014
- University of California San Diego, San Diego CA 2013
- City College of Pasadena, Pasadena CA 2013
- University of Redlands, Redlands CA 2013
- Nagoya University, Nagoya Japan 2010
- Colorado Symphony Orchestra Summer Program, Denver CO 2010

### **COMMISSIONS**

- *Levity Factions*, Switchboard Presents, San Francisco CA 2015
- *No Awareness*, Temescal Composers Colloquium, Oakland CA 2015
- *Art & Judy*, Colorado Conservatory for the Jazz Arts, Denver CO 2014
- *Fair Slope*, Samantha Stone Dance Ensemble, San Francisco CA 2014
- *The Matter of Tending Your Garden*, New Keys Ensemble San Francisco CA 2014
- *The Moods*, New Keys Ensemble, San Francisco CA 2013
- *A Crimson Hexagon*, Samantha Stone Dance Ensemble, San Francisco CA 2012

### **ARTIST IN RESIDENCE**

- Lijiang Studio, Lashihai, Yunnan, China June-August 2017
- Lijiang Studio Index at City Bird Gallery, New York NY 2015
- Colorado Conservatory for the Jazz Arts, Denver CO 2014

## **SOUNDTRACKING WORK**

*For Akheem* 2017

- Feature Length documentary
- composition/vibraphone/piano/crotales

*Rise of the Sentient Bees* 2014

- Interactive illustrated story
- composition/vibraphone/keyboards/sequencing

*Nonsense Alphabet* 2013

- Interactive spelling game
- composition/keyboards/sequencing

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## **DISCOGRAPHY**

### **As a leader/Co-leader/composer**

- *Tidy Universe*, The Dirty Snacks Ensemble (recollect records) 2016
- *Gold Age*, Gold Age (single speed) 2016
- *Moonphase ep*, Two Aerials 2016
- *Color of the Year*, Color of the Year 2014
- *Approval Seekers*, Approval Seekers 2014
- *Dirty Snacks for Vivace*, Dirty Snacks Ensemble 2013

### **Selected Releases as a performer/collaborator**

- *Colossus Rising*, Rent Romus' Life's Blood Ensemble (edgetone) 2016
- *Range Songs*, Mickey Theis 2016
- *Mister Freedom*, Mister Freedom 2016
- *Archipelago*, Melody Parker 2016
- *San Francisco*, Dominique Leone 2015
- *American 707*, DRMS 2015
- *No Saints*, Mickey Theis 2014
- *Bells Atlas*, Bells Atlas 2013

### **[LINK TO DISCOGRAPHY](#)**

## **AWARDS/HONORS**

Frank Toth Memorial Award 2012

Outstanding Undergraduate recital of Distinction 2012

Outstanding student in jazz and commercial studies 2011

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

ASCAP since 2014

