

AUSTIN BIRDY

CONTACT

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WEBSITE

www.austinbirdy.com

SKILLS

- Drum Set - musical theatre / jazz / blues / pop / rock / metal / brazilian and afro-cuban styles
- Mallet and keyboard percussion / classical / auxiliary and pop-percussion / some afro-cuban and eastern hand percussion
- Live triggering of samples, click tracks, and backing tracks with the Roland SPD-SX and the Pearl Mallet Station
- Orchestral experience and knowledge of contemporary percussion repertoire / instruments / extended techniques
- Versatile performance experience (bands, musical theatre, orchestra, wind ensemble, world music, solo recitals, weddings, corporate events)
- Music notation reading of all styles
- Extensive studio recording experience
- Functional audio engineering / recording / mixing / mastering
- Video production and editing / functional website development
- Experience in Pro Tools, Logic, MainStage, Max, and Adobe Suite

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Music : Percussion Performance, 05/2017

The Boston Conservatory - Boston, MA
Marimba and percussion studies with Nancy Zeltsman, Keith Aleo, Doug Perkins, Samuel Solomon, and Kyle Brightwell (Boston Symphony). Drum set studies at Berklee College of Music.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Brooklyn-based drummer and percussionist with extensive performance and touring experience in the orchestral, pop, rock, jazz, and theatre fields. A multi-faceted musician with music technology expertise, as well as a comprehensive knowledge of pitched-keyboard percussion, hand drums, orchestral percussion, and drum set. A passionate person with a strong attention to detail.

WORK HISTORY

Drums and Assistant Music Direction, 06/2023 to 08/2023

The Cape Playhouse - Dennis, MA

22 shows of *Jersey Boys* at the historic Cape Cod summer stock theatre. Directed by Joyce Chittick (*Cabaret, Grease, Beautiful: The Carol King Musical*).

Percussionist, 10/2018 to 01/2019

Huntington Theatre Company - Boston, MA

Percussionist for the 42 show run of "*Man in The Ring*" - by Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award recipient Michael Cristofer (*The Shadow Box, Witches of Eastwick, Mr. Robot*) and directed by Michael Greif (*Dear Evan Hansen, Rent*) Music directed by Tony Award Honoree Michael McElroy (*Rent, Next to Normal, The Who's Tommy*). Session recording and live triggering of background tracks/pre-recorded materials, drums, and percussion.

Drum Instructor, 07/2017 to 03/2022

Freelance

Three students with In Home Jams - Newton, MA (08/2018-04/2020)

Ten students at The Music Place - North Reading, MA (08/2019-04/2020)

Two students privately (2018-2020)

Dance Accompanist, 09/2018 to 02/2019

The Boston Ballet School

Accompanied classes for the Adaptive Dance program - working with youth on the Autism spectrum, and with Downs Syndrome, through dance and musical expression.

NOTABLE EXPERIENCE

- Raise Your Voice: Cabaret For a Cure featuring Andy Mientus (*Spring Awakening, Les Miserables*), Jelani Remy (*Back to the Future, The Lion King*), Will Roland (*Dear Evan Hansen, Billions*), Nic Rouleau (*Book of Mormon*), Sonya Balsara (*Aladdin*). (2023)
- Workshop of *Freedom Ride* by Dan Shore w/ MassOpera before its Chicago Opera premiere, conducted by Lidiya Yankovskaya at Boston's Strand Theatre (2019)
- Percussionist in *The Lost Princess of Oz* premiere with Axelrod Contemporary Ballet Theatre, featuring acclaimed New Jersey duo Williams Honor (2022)
- Drum set w/ The Brockton Symphony Orchestra - *West Side Story* (2018)
- Percussion session recording on *So Much to See* for Theatrely.com (2022)
- Opened for True Widow (Relapse Records) while playing with Elizabeth Colour Wheel (The Flenser) at Great Scott - Boston MA (2016)
- Opened for Brian Wilson of The Beach Boys on his *Pet Sounds 50th Anniversary Tour* on the Magic Hat stage at the Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion with Aüva. (2017)
- Amid the Noise show with Jason Treuting of Sō Percussion at Le Labritoire - Cambridge, MA (2017)

REFERENCES

Michael McElroy
Music Director of *Man In The Ring*.
Chair of Theatre at University of Michigan
mdmcel@umich.edu

Peter Mansfield
Cape Symphony Conductor
Boston Pops Orchestra Arranger
pmaestro@comcast.net

Doug Perkins
Chair of Percussion at University of Michigan
dfperkin@umich.edu

- Persian New Year Showcase with the Sarzamin Iranian Folk Ensemble and the Safarini Sisters @ Boston Museum Of Fine Arts - MIT, and Harvard University (2018 and 2019)
- New England Premiere of David Maslanka Symphony #10 with Dartmouth College Wind Ensemble (2018)
- Artist in Residence at Boston Conservatory's High School Composition Intensive (2017)
- Berklee x Vanyaland's South by Southwest Showcase w/ Aüva - Austin, TX (2017)
- Percussionist with The Charles River Wind Ensemble (2018, 2019, and 2020 seasons)
- Marimba with The Crossmen Drum and Bugle Corps (2011 and 2012 tours)

THEATRE SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE

Regional / Professional / Off-Broadway Productions

- *Jersey Boys* at The Cape Playhouse, Drums and Assistant Music Direction - Dennis, MA (2023)
- *Man in The Ring* at The Huntington Theatre Company - Boston, MA (2018)
- *Archie's Weird Parody* Off-Broadway at Theatre Row for 18 shows (2023)
- *A Very Merry Unauthorized Children's Scientology Pageant* Assistant Music Direction and Orchestration for the Off-Broadway taping - IFT Network (2022)
- *Catching Fireflies: A New Queer Musical* workshop and premiere at Feinstein's 54 Below. NYC (2022)
- *Xanadu* in The Madison Theatre series at Molloy College - Rockville Centre, NY (2022)
- *Creed: The Musical* at The Producer's Club (2022)
- *Jesus of Suburbia* with Michael Anthony Theatrical at Greenroom 42 - NYC (2022)
- *Godspell* with The Muddy Water Players - Monroe, NY (2022)
- *It Shoulda' Been You* with Mass Arts Center - Mansfield, MA (2019)
- *The Addams Family* with Arlington Friends of Drama - Arlington, MA (2019)
- *Next to Normal* with The Longwood Players at Chelsea Theatreworks - Chelsea, MA (2018)
- *Bye Bye Birdie* with The Colonial Chorus Players - Reading, MA (2018)
- *Drowsy Chaperone* with Mass Arts Society - Mansfield, MA (2018)
- Tommy Williams' 14th Annual *Urban Nutcracker*, for 14 performances at John Hancock Hall - Boston, MA (2017)
- Boston Theatre Company's 2nd Annual Cabaret with Dawn Cantwell (*Wicked*, *The Last Ship*) and Ryan Cantwell (*1776*, *Pippin*, *Finding Neverland*) (2015)

College Productions

- *NINE* at Tisch School of the Arts (sub) - New York University (2023)
- *Bandstand* at Tisch School of the Arts (sub) - New York University (2023)
- *Beauty and The Beast* at The South Shore School of Theatre - Eastern Nazarene College Quincy, MA (2018)
- *Another Roll of The Dice* workshop with seven-time Emmy winner Mark Saltzman at The Boston Conservatory - Boston, MA (2018)
- *Chicago* at The South Shore School of Theatre - Eastern Nazarene College Quincy, MA (2017)
- *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at The South Shore School of Theatre - Eastern Nazarene College Quincy, MA (2017)

High School / Middle / Elementary / Community Productions (2010-2022)

(*A Christmas Carol*, *Bat Boy*, *Bring It On*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Curtains*, *Elf Jr*, *Frozen Jr*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Honk*, *How to Succeed in Business*, *Into the Woods*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Legally Blonde*, *Lion King Jr*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Percy Jackson*, *Pippin*, *Rent*, *Shrek*, *Sideshow*, *Singing in the Rain*, *Spring Awakening*, *Urinetown!*, *You're a good man Charlie Brown*)