

VESSELA STOYANOVA

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EDUCATION

- 2011 - 2013 **M.M. New England Conservatory**, Boston MA, USA
Contemporary Improvisation; Academic Honors
- 1996 – 2000 **B.M. Berklee College of Music**, Boston MA, USA
Percussion with Marimba Emphasis Performance
Film Scoring
Recipient of the Vic Firth Award for excellence;
Summa Cum Laude
- 1993 – 1996 **National Music Academy**, Sofia, Bulgaria
Percussion Performance

TEACHING

- 2012 - current **Berklee College Of Music**, Assistant Professor, Harmony
Department
- 2012 - current **Berklee College of Music**, Assisnat Professor, 5 week Summer
program: Musicianship; Balkan/Middle Eastern Ensemble
- 2011 - 2012 **Teaching assistant** with the Music History Department at New
England Conservatory
- 2000 - current **Private lessons:** mallets, percussion, music theory, ear training,
Balkan music;

PERFORMANCE / COMPOSITION

- 2013 - 2014 **Berklee Performance Center, David Friend Recital Hall**
Pletenitsa Balkan Choir (tupan)
- Shalin Liu Performance Center, Rockport MA**
with Erik Lindgren (vibraphone)
- YMCA, Cambridge MA**
Jazz Composers Alliance (vibraphone, marimba)
- Berklee Performance Center, Boston MA**
World Music Festival (MIDI marimba)
- Berklee Performance Center, Boston MA**
Write Of Spring Concert (marimba)
- Somerville Theater, Somerville MA - Beck's Songreader**
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston - Artbeat, curated by NEC,**
performed an original composition for small ensemble
- 2012 **Orient/Occident Concert at Jordan Hall, NEC**
Composed and performed "Balkan Suite" - a piece for a large ensemble - inspired by "Caravan" by Juan Tizol
- 2011 **Berklee Rainbow Band**
Composed "Nardciss" - a piece for the big band, and performed on it as a soloist during their concert at the Berklee Performance Center on December 14th 2011
- 2011 - 2013 **Jordan Hall, NEC**
Performed in the following concerts: Tribute to Joe Maneri, Mahler Unleashed, Beckett Play, Orient/Occident, 40th Anniversary of the CI department
- 2010 – current **Bury Me Standing**
Co-founder, co-composer, marimba player. A strange mix of Balkan folk music, thrash metal, and psychedelic avant-pop, obsessed with exploring the war within and without
- 2006 – current **GOLI**

Co-founder, co-composer, marimba, melodica and second vocalist. A duet with cello playing chamber music for the modern era. Original compositions inspired by Balkan music, Tango, Celtic, American folk, Western classical and more. Over 500 concerts in the last 5 years, including a monthly residency in NYC, festivals and collaborations with film, art galleries and theater

2007 – current

Elephant Tango Ensemble

Co-founder, co-composer, arranger, marimba, melodica and back up vocals for: original puppetry, house band for “Bent Wit Cabaret”, house band for “Cloud Club Music series.” Playing originals and covers specifically arranged for the ensemble

2008 – 2009

“Eastern Stories Under Western Skies”

Composer, musical director, arranger and marimba player.
A music series of Balkan music performed in Chicago IL and Boston MA

2003 – 2008

Fluttr Effect and Fluttr Effect Acoustic

Co-founder, band-leader, composer and MIDI marimba player.
An eclectic art rock band. Over 500 concerts, touring the USA, Canada and Europe, including major summer festivals, winner of Emergenza 2004, opened for The Darkness, Kings X, Ozric Tentacles, The Flower Kings, The Dresden Dolls and more

2000 – 2005

Tempest Productions Theater

Composer and percussionist for the plays “EAT!” and “Body and Sold” – over 50 performances all over New England raising awareness of the danger of eating disorders and body trafficking respectively

2002 – 2005

Marimbira

Co-founder, band-leader and marimba player.
A world music band featuring music from Zimbabwe and Madagascar

2000 – 2002

“The Human Connection”

Composer and marimba player.
A music series of contemporary classical music by young composers. Participation by invitation only

1999 – 2003

.WAV

Co-founder, band-leader, main composer and marimba player.
A surf jazz fusion band. Over 200 concerts in the USA and

Canada, including collaboration with Yanka Rupkina – soloist for “The Mystery of the Bulgarian Voices” and “Trio Bulgarka.”
Winner of first price award at the “Festival of Bulgarian Culture” in Toronto, Canada in 2000

1998 – 1999

American Repertory Theater

Composer and Percussionist for the plays “The Bacchae” and “Antigony” directed by Francoix Rochaix – an all percussion score involving a great deal of improvisation and dance accompaniment

1999 – current

Freelance performer with a number of bands, ensembles, orchestras, theater productions, ballets, clinics, solo performances at museums, art galleries, art installations, dance accompaniment etc. Venues included Berklee Performance Center, Jordan Hall, Oberon Theater, Regent Theater, Somerville Theater, Paradise Rock Club, Johnny D’s and many more.

Styles ranging from classical and contemporary to rock, pop, folk, world music, original compositions, jazz, free improvisation, etc. including Boston Musica Viva, New England Philharmonic, Brookline Symphony Orchestra, MIT Symphony Orchestra, Lovewhip, Humanwine, Birdsongs of the Mesosoic, Angeline, Mobius, PAN 9, Emperor Norton’s Stationary Marching Band, Jaggery, Frogg Café, Sarah Rabdau and many more

OTHER MUSIC RELATED EXPERIENCE

2008 – current

Tufts University, Boston MA – a guest lecturer for the “Electronic Musical Instrument Design” class, taught by Paul Lehrman

2007 – current

Cloud Club Music Series – workshops on music from the Balkans with an emphasis on understanding and performing in odd meters

2008

Niles North High School, Chicago, IL: A week-long teaching residency with emphasis on MIDI marimba and the world of odd time signatures, building up to a performance of the original composition “Samodivi” commissioned by the Niles North High School Percussion Ensemble and performed at their annual concert

2007

Niles North High School, Chicago, IL: Master class on marimba in the contemporary world of music

- 2005 **Ithaca University and Cornell University, Ithaca NY** - joint master class on MIDI marimba
- 1998 – 1999 **Norwood High School** – assistant music director for the high school marching band. Responsibilities included arranging music for the mallet pit, teaching individually and as a group, and performing in competitions throughout New England.

RECORDINGS:

- 2014 **Bury Me Standing** 4 songs EP, not yet released
- 2012 **Bury Me Standing** full length album, self released
- 2012 **Sarah Rabdau**'s "Foolish Ida" - first of two albums inspired by Maurice Sendak's story; second album coming up later this year
- 2012 **Emperor Norton's Stationary Marching Band**, "Disco Dischordia" released by ENSMB
- 2011 in progress: **GOLI** full length album
- 2008 **GOLI** – self titled EP, self-released
- 2006 **Flutter Effect Acoustic** – "Swallows and Sparrows", released by Trojan Horse Productions
- 2006 **Flutter Effect** – "Marking Time" full length CD, released by Trojan Horse Productions
- 2004 **Flutter Effect** – "Trithemis Festiva" full length CD, released by Trojan Horse Productions
- 2003 **Flutter Effect** – self titled EP, self-released
- 2002 **Marimbira** – self titled EP, self-released
- 2000 **.WAV** – "Oneiros" full length CD, self-released

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2012 - current Entrepreneurial Musicianship Department at New England Conservatory, writing and assembling music business handouts for **Bridge: World Music Connection**
- 2000 – 2010 Administrative Assistant for Ensemble Department, Berklee College of Music, Boston MA
- 1993 – 1996 English Language Alliance, Sofia Bulgaria – ESL instructor.

REFERENCES:

Ron Savage, Chair of Ensemble Department
Email: rsavage@berklee.edu
Phone: 617-747-8416

Joe Mulholland,
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Phone: 617-747-8468

WEB PRESENCE

www.burymestanding.org

www.golimusic.com

www.vesselamusic.com