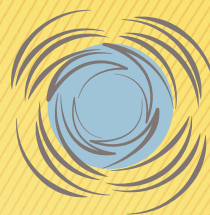




2023/24
ANNUAL REPORT



THIRD COAST
PERCUSSION



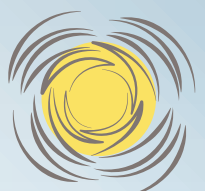


Drea B





mining



Opening Remarks

Over the past year, Third Coast Percussion continued to push the boundaries of contemporary percussion music, creating new works, collaborating with diverse artists, and inspiring audiences around the world. Our latest Annual Report showcases a celebratory year of excellence, community engagement, and musical innovation. This year has been marked by exciting milestones, including the premiere of several commissioned pieces, dynamic educational initiatives, and successful performances both in the United States and internationally.

Third Coast Percussion continues to embrace opportunities presented by a dynamic performing arts landscape, ensuring the organization's work impacts diverse audiences.

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Our achievements are a testament to the unwavering support of our patrons and partners, and the incredible dedication of the team. As we reflect on

the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the community that surrounds us and fuels our passion. As we look ahead, we are going big to commemorate a massive anniversary season: 20 Years of Impact and Resonance. Please stay tuned for program announcements and new collaborations. I appreciate you leaning in with ways you can further support our anniversary year goals.

We look forward to building on this year's successes and sharing transformative musical experiences in the year ahead. Thank you for being an integral part of Third Coast Percussion's journey.

Ethelbert Williams

BOARD PRESIDENT



Ethelbert Williams

In this past concert season, Third Coast Percussion performed three separate concerto projects with five orchestras on two continents; we premiered, toured, and recorded a new work by our mentor, Michael Burritt, celebrating 400 years of the Zildjian Cymbal Company; we celebrated our seventhth GRAMMY® nomination, becoming the most-nominated artist in the history of the Best Chamber Music / Small Ensemble Performance category; we celebrated the tenth anniversary of our Currents Creative Partnership program; and much more.

We make no small plans at TCP – we dream big because we love what we do, and we never tire of exploring new possibilities for the music we make and the impact that it can have on audiences.

But I think what I'm most proud of is that we did all of this in the past year, while planning our most ambitious projects and organizational goals to date as we celebrate our landmark 20th anniversary season over the next two years. The ability to do all this is thanks to the exceptionally talented and devoted arts leaders that make up this team.

David Skidmore



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
ENSEMBLE MEMBER

We make no small plans at TCP – we dream big because we love what we do, and we never tire of exploring new possibilities for the music we make and the impact that it can have on audiences. I hope you enjoy celebrating the accomplishments of this past year detailed in this report, and I hope you will dream big with us as we celebrate 20 Years of Impact and Resonance!

Year in Review



The 2023/2024 concert season brought several dream projects to life and broke exciting new ground for the ensemble.

Third Coast Percussion performed an unprecedented three different concertos in one season, appearing as soloists with the Musikkollegium Winterthur (TCP's European concerto debut) in *Meander, Spiral, Explode* by Christopher Cerrone; in Santa Rosa, CA, Wheeling, WV, and at the Grand Teton Music Festival with *PLAY!* – a new concerto by Clarice Assad which also features the composer as narrator/vocalist; and in two sonically and visually stunning performances of Torū Takemitsu's *From me flows what you call Time* with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. The world premiere of Clarice Assad's concerto inspired League of American Orchestra's President and CEO Simon Woods to share, "This piece should be performed all over the country, as it's both musically brilliant and also fantastic for the audience."

The quartet's touring season once again swept from coast to coast with the beloved recital program, *Perspectives*. TCP's highly-anticipated Big Ears festival debut in Knoxville also included a special back-to-back set with frequent collaborator Jlin. A special program of music by Carlos Carrillo brought

TCP and guest artists from Chicago to the island of Puerto Rico for the first time. *Metamorphosis* – featuring choreography by Movement Art Is (Lil Buck and Jon Boogz) – made its way to Europe for a run in Rotterdam, London, and Warsaw.



Clarice Assad and TCP performing Assad's *PLAY!* with the Santa Rosa Symphony

A highlight of the season was the premiere of *Since Time Began*, an epic new work composed by the ensemble's mentor Michael Burritt, at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Indianapolis. Commissioned to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Zildjian cymbal company, there could have been no

better setting than one of the world's largest gatherings of percussionists. TCP was invited to perform the work again at the Eastman School of Music before bringing it home to Chicago audiences.

TCP's hometown crowd was treated to an incredible lineup of unique concert programs throughout the year, starting with an album release concert for *Between Breaths*. This stunning album – featuring works by Missy Mazzoli, Ayanna Woods, TCP, Tyondai Braxton, and Gemma Peacocke – garnered TCP's seventh GRAMMY® nomination a few months later. A free public performance at Navy Pier, Carlos Carrillo portrait concert at Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center, two full-length recitals at DePaul University, and annual Currents concert at Constellation with three world premieres by Currents Creative Partners allowed TCP to widen its impact across the city. A sold-out concert at DePaul with special guest composer/violinist Jessie Montgomery was paired with the unveiling of TCP's next big dream brought to life: a 20th anniversary celebration full of exciting new collaborations and unlimited creativity.



TCP with Jessie Montgomery



Movement Artists Trent Jeray and Cameron Murphy with TCP in Metamorphosis



Clarice Assad, TCP, and a barrage of rubber chickens in PLAY!



Education



This year certainly was a big one for TCP's education and community engagement efforts!

For the first time ever, the members of TCP were music faculty and guest artists at an interdisciplinary performing arts camp for high school students. For eight days, the quartet taught and interacted with music, theater, and dance students at the Summer TUTTI Performing Arts Camp at Denison University in Granville, OH. The week included a TCP-led drum circle for all participants, an early morning Sound Meditation, a TCP concert, percussion lessons, and a side-by-side performance with the four high



school percussionists performing some classic TCP repertoire all together. It was a joyous week and a wonderful way to close out our season!

We continued our educational work at home in Chicago through our partnership with The People's Music School, a tuition-free community music

For the first time ever, TCP were music faculty and guest artists at an interdisciplinary performing arts camp for high school students.

school with whom we've established a deep and lasting collaboration. This year we joined the newly formed Artistic Advisory Council of TPMS, presented a masterclass and coachings for percussion students, performed a TPMS-student-composed work at their December concert, presented a concert for students featuring world renowned guest artists Jessie Montgomery and She-e Wu, and appeared on the massive TPMS year-end "Performapaloozathon."

While on tour, we performed our educational concert "Think Outside the



Drum” ten times in Minnesota through a week-long residency with the Schubert Club, as well as at schools in six states and across the ocean in Switzerland, where we presented it in German for the first time. We reached more than 3,500 students through other educational



engagements, including workshopping and premiering new works by student composers at Denison University and UC Santa Cruz, and leading masterclasses for percussionists all over the world, including the Royal College of Music and the Royal Conservatory of Music in London, Eastman School of Music, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, University of North Texas, University of Nevada Las Vegas, University of Central Arkansas, and five universities in California during a West

Coast tour, as well as a special online masterclass for the Network for Diversity in Concert Percussion. In addition, TCP was the featured artist at the opening ceremony of the Illinois Music Educators Association, where we performed for students and teachers from across the state.

For the fifth season, TCP served as Ensemble-in-Residence at Denison University, spending a total of three weeks on campus working with such eclectic classes as Environmental Studies, Dance Studio, Data Analytics, Introduction to Psychology, First Year Writing Seminar, Technology Power and People, Mindfulness, and Black Studies-

For the fifth season, TCP served as Ensemble-in-Residence at Denison University

Black Feminist Thought. We also brought guest artists to campus through our dance and percussion concert program *Metamorphosis*, and our collaborators worked with students in classes such as Fundamentals of Hip-hop, Making Lives of Color Matter, and Elements of Scenic and Lighting Design. Of course, we also interacted with percussion students: teaching private lessons, ensemble coaching, and performing side-by-side in the first ever appearance of the Denison University Percussion Ensemble.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



“Our dream is to have classical music programming more accurately reflect the demographics of the world we live in.”



Third Coast Percussion has lofty goals for the classical music industry. Our dream is to have classical music programming more accurately reflect the demographics of the world we live in. In the 2023/24 concert season, 78.4% of music performed by professional orchestras across the world was composed by White men* – so clearly the industry still has a long way to go.

**Third Coast Percussion
2023/24 Concert Season:
52% ALAANA composers,
48% non-male composers**

TCP's programming, influences, interests, and creative output represent a much broader picture of classical music's place in the cultural landscape. Since we began tracking demographic data on our programming, the demographics of our programming across a concert season have matched or nearly matched the demographics of the



country we live in. We publish this data on our website each year – to keep ourselves accountable, but also to show our peer organizations the continued importance that we place on this aspect of our artistry.

In the coming year, we will celebrate a milestone for TCP – 20 years of exciting and unexpected musical experiences.



We think it's fitting that we are celebrating with three major collaborative tours next year, with three world-class, diverse masters of their craft: tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain, performer and GRAMMY® Award-winning composer Jessie Montgomery, and groundbreaking choreographer Twyla Tharp. We hope the projects we take on and the energy we put into broadening our repertoire and our audiences helps others dream big and imagine a more diverse world in classical music.



*Donne, Women in Music "Equality and Diversity in Global Repertoire" report, 2023/24
<https://donne-uk.org/research/>

Financial Summary



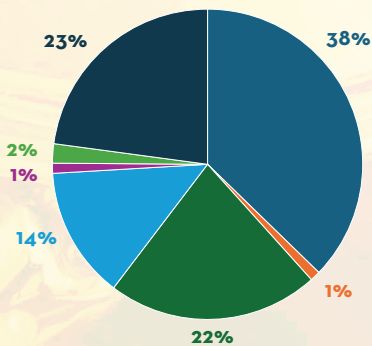
In the ramp up toward TCP's 20th anniversary, we spent more on commissioning new works, investing in a bold and diverse set of programs for the next two seasons. Our contributed income shows that our individual donors and presenting partners have been dreaming big with us, with individual donations increasing in anticipation of this landmark occasion and co-commissioning support coming through to support these exciting new collaborations. TCP also spent more on our Chicago Concert Season, self-presenting an entire season of shows in our hometown with the help of our committed Chicago

Circle members. This strong presence in Chicago has been a goal we've been working toward for several years, and we're thrilled to be able to bring that dream to reality. We've also invested more in marketing expenses to spread the joy of TCP with a broader audience, and have continued to invest in our team, working toward competitive salaries for our ensemble and staff. We ran a very slight deficit this fiscal year, the first in our history, which was a deliberate choice to invest ahead of growth and pursue ambitious programs. TCP's operating budget is projected to continue growing over the coming seasons, as we dream big on all fronts.

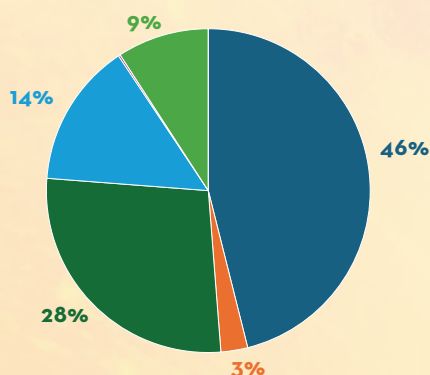
Income

- Performance Engagements
- Other Earned
- Individual Giving
- Foundation Support
- Co-Commissioning Support
- Government Support
- COVID relief

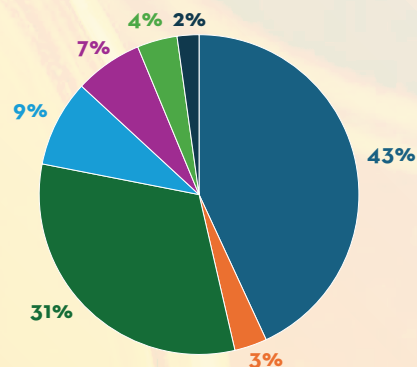
FY 2022



FY 2023

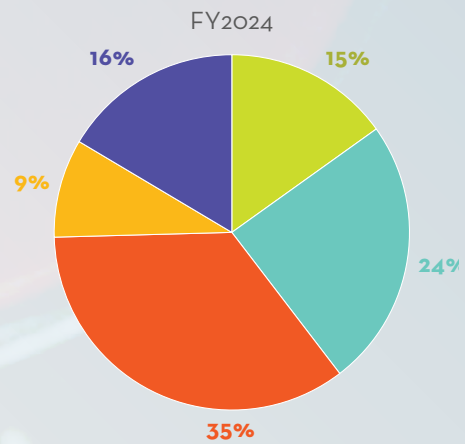
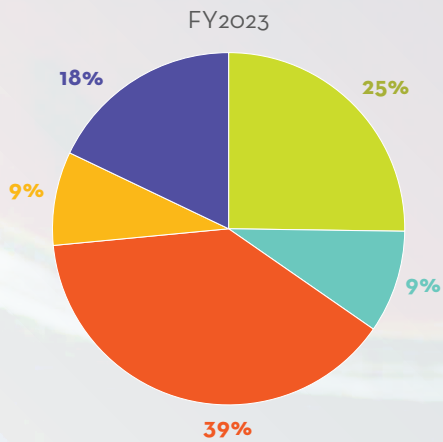
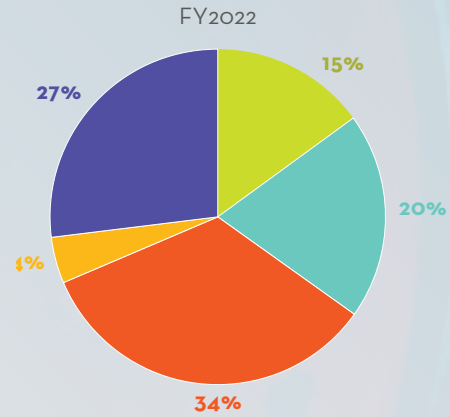


FY 2024



Production

- Guest Artists
- Commissions
- Travel
- Chicago Concert Season Production
- Other Production



Expenses



Upcoming Events



Over the course of two decades, Third Coast Percussion has dared to dream how percussion ensemble music is capable of transforming the performing arts landscape.

As part of its 20th anniversary celebration, the ensemble is embarking on its most ambitious artistic collaborations to date, paying tribute to its past while forging ahead into a bold new future.

A new project with the legendary choreographer Twyla Tharp is a prime example: TCP has reimaged its arrangements of Philip Glass's *Agua da Amazonia* in close collaboration with Tharp. With the expanded forces of custom-built percussion instruments and flute, the music is the basis for a new dance work that will tour the country as part of Twyla Tharp Dance's Diamond Jubilee, visiting world-renowned venues including the Kennedy Center, New York City Center, Detroit Opera House, and more.

Tabla master Zakir Hussain is an icon and hero to percussionists around the

world. TCP is thrilled to have commissioned a major new work from Hussain for tabla and percussion quartet called *Murmurs In Time*, which will premiere at the Modlin Center for the Arts at University of Richmond before touring to Carnegie Hall, University Musical Society in Ann Arbor, Green Music Center in Sonoma, and La Jolla Music Society in winter 2025.

One of the world's most in-demand artists, composer and violinist Jessie Montgomery, will join TCP as soloist in Lou Harrison's *Concerto for Violin with Percussion Orchestra* in a program that will also feature a new work by Montgomery for percussion quartet called *Lady Justice*. This program will tour to University of Iowa's Hancher Auditorium, Krannert Center at University of Illinois, University of Notre Dame, Oberlin College, Meany Center at University of Washington,

Stanford University's Bing Concert Hall, and more.

Armenian pianist and composer Tigran Hamasyan has taken the jazz world by storm with his singular style and inventive rhythmic vocabulary. Long time admirers of Hamasyan's work, TCP commissioned *Sonata for Percussion*, his first-ever composition for percussion quartet. Plans are in the works for the artists to share a double bill concert program that will reward listeners with an evening of boundless musical exchange.

Realizing these dream collaborations has only further inspired the ensemble to pursue the next frontier of artistic possibilities. Throughout the coming year, TCP will continue developing projects with a diverse range of artists such as Dame Evelyn Glennie, Jlin, Augusta Read Thomas, and Musekiwa Chingodza.



*TCP shares the stage with
Jlm at Big Ears Festival*



TCP with Tigran Hamasyan



Metamorphosis in Warsaw



Meet Our Team



– ENSEMBLE –



Sean Connors
*Ensemble Member, Technical
Director, and Education Director*



Robert Dillon
*Ensemble Member and
Development Director*



Peter Martin
*Ensemble Member and
Finance Director*



David Skidmore
*Ensemble Member and
Executive Director*

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Colin Campbell
Production Manager



Amanda Cantlin
Marketing Consultant



Rebecca McDaniel
Development Manager



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Mission



**The mission of Third Coast
Percussion is to inspire and
educate through the creation
of exciting and unexpected
musical experiences.**



Vision

**A world-wide audience that
embraces creativity, curiosity,
and community through music.**




Values


**Highest standard of excellence
Curiosity and experimentation
Responsibility and stewardship
Collaboration
Equity, diversity and inclusion
Kindness and respect**

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