

Beverley Johnston **percussionist**

500 word bio (approx.)

Canadian percussionist Beverley Johnston is internationally recognized for her dynamic performances on marimba and percussion. Her exciting performances have been distinguished as unconventional, effectively combining classical transcriptions, contemporary music, and a touch of theatre. She has captivated audiences across North America and overseas with her personal charm and her unique style. Her performances and recordings have been broadcast on radio networks all over the world. She has released seven solo CDs: *The Spirit and the Dust* (2020, Centrediscs); *Woman Runs with Wolves* (2013, Centrediscs) *Ming* (2009, Centrediscs); *Garden of Delights* (2004, independent release); *Alternate Currents* (1992, Centrediscs); *Marimbach* (1989, CBC Records Musica Viva); and *Impact* (1986, Centrediscs, JUNO nominee). She can also be heard as soloist or chamber musician on numerous other recordings.

She has maintained an active schedule with her international travels performing at percussion festivals in the United States, Europe and Asia including the Ivana Bilic Marimba Week in Croatia (2017), The International Katarzyna Mycka Marimba Academy in Europe (2013, 2015 and 2023), the Shenyang International Percussion Festival in China (2010), The International Marimba Festival and Conference in Minneapolis, USA (2010), The Zeltsman Marimba Festival in USA (2005, 2009, 2013), the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (1988, 1995, 2006, 2009, 2014, 2022), the Stockholm International Percussion Event (1998) and the Journee de la Percussions in Paris, France (1999). The Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity invited her to be a faculty member in the fall of 2016. For years she has been performing at different Canadian summer music festivals including the Festival of the Sound , The Ottawa Chamber Music Festival, The Music and Beyond Festival, among others. She performed a 'Bev Johnston and Friends' recital with the Women's Musical Club of Toronto in November, 2021 and her latest solo production called 'Finding HER Voice' was premiered on International Women's Day in 2022. She was featured at the 2022 Sound Symposium in St. John's Newfoundland.

In 2009 she was given the distinction of becoming an Ambassador of the Canadian Music Centre in honour of her exemplary commitment to the performance of Canadian composers.

Beverley has enjoyed collaborating with other musicians including the Amici Chamber Ensemble, the Penderecki String Quartet, The Blue Rider Ensemble, The Art of Time Ensemble, violinist Marc Djokic, flautist Susan Hoepfner, NEXUS, TorQ Percussion Quartet and the Joint Venture Percussion Duo.

Ms. Johnston has been featured in several important interviews and documentaries. She was one of the hosts for the CBC radio show "This is my Music" in 2016, featured guest for percussionist Casey Cangelosi's popular internet podcasts (2017) and has had feature articles in DRUM! Magazine (Beverley Johnston: A Champion of New, Genre-Busting Works by David A. Brensilver; March, 2015) and Percussive Notes (Finding Her Voice: An Interview with Beverley Johnston by Nathan Daughtrey; September, 2014). She was also the subject of an hour-long documentary on CBC Television's nationally broadcast Sunday Arts and Entertainment (1995). Her performance on this program was nominated for a GEMINI Award in the category of "Best Performance in a Performing Arts Program". In 2022 she was inducted into the CBC 'In Concert' hall of fame!

Beverley Johnston received her training at Vanier College in her native Montreal and studied with Russell Hartenberger at the University of Toronto, where she now teaches. She is a Marimba One and Paiste Artist. For more information, please visit her on Facebook and at www.beverleyjohnston.com