

OLIVER XU

Percussion Soloist

Biography

Percussionist Oliver Xu has been internationally recognized as a solo performer advocating for contemporary music. Based in New York City, he is currently a fellow at Carnegie Hall's Ensemble Connect and performs with flutist Catherine Boyack as Coriolis Duo. This season, he will appear at venues ranging from Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall to Off-Broadway's Theatre 154 to Madrid's Reina Sofia Museum. Highlights from last season include New York performances presented by Lincoln Center's Summer for the City, Chelsea Music Festival, and Talea Ensemble as well as performances abroad at the Lucerne Festival Academy and Shanghai's Shangyin Opera House.

Oliver's performance highlights also include concerto performances with the GRAMMY-winning Albany Symphony Orchestra, the premiere of a new work by Ayanna Woods at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention, the New York premiere of Judd Greenstein's percussion concerto, and solo recitals at Ithaca College and The Juilliard School.

A dedicated educator, Oliver teaches at P.S. 21 in Flushing through Ensemble Connect and regularly gives masterclasses at colleges around the country including Colorado State University, University of Central Florida, and University of North Florida.



Contact Information

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YouTube: [@oliverxuperc](https://www.youtube.com/@oliverxuperc)

Education

The Juilliard School, Master of Music 2022
Eastman School of Music, Bachelor of Music 2020

Competition Awards

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| <i>Third Prize</i> , Sixth IPEA International Percussion Competition | 2021 |
| <i>Winner</i> , Great Plains International Marimba Competition | 2021 |
| <i>Winner</i> , Percussive Arts Society Solo Artist Competition | 2021 |
| <i>Semifinalist</i> , 74 th Geneva International Music Competition | 2019 |
| <i>Semifinalist</i> and winner of youth jury prize, TROMP International Percussion Competition | 2018 |



Recital Program

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| Yao Chen <i>Asura</i> | 9' |
| Ayanna Woods <i>Bloom Balloon</i> | 7' |
| Kevin Volans <i>She Who Sleeps with a Small Blanket</i> | 14' |
| J.S. Bach <i>Tocatta in E minor, BWV 914</i> | 9' |
| Victor LaBozzetta <i>Liberate</i> | 7' |
| Iannis Xenakis <i>Rebonds A</i> | 8' |
| Keith Jarrett <i>The Köln Concert, Part IIc</i> | 6' |

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Instrument List for Solo recital:

- Five octave marimba (Marimba One)
- Vibraphone
- 2 bass drums (36", 28")
- Kick drum (22")
- 3 concert toms (14", 13", 12")
- 2 bongos
- 2 congas



Oliver's Endorsements:

- Marimba One
- Zildjian
- Black Swamp Percussion

"Oliver played with a terrific sense of touch and sound that was only outshined by his sheer virtuosity. His feedback to my students was invaluable."

Dr. Eric Hollenbeck, Professor of Percussion at Colorado State University



"Oliver Xu is a sensitive and dynamic musician who is able to execute an impeccable program of impressive contemporary repertoire. Well-received by students in a masterclass setting, Oliver was able to thoughtfully engage with them in a positive and constructive way."

Dr. Andrea Venet, Professor of Percussion at University of North Florida

