

# DEREK KWAN

electronic musician / percussionist / digital artist  
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## // EDUCATION

**State University of New York, Stony Brook** (Stony Brook, NY) 2015  
Doctor of Musical Arts: Music (Percussion Performance)  
**Queens College, City University of New York** (Flushing, NY) 2010  
Master of Arts: Music (Percussion Performance)  
**University of California, Davis** (Davis, CA) 2008  
Bachelor of Arts: Music Performance (Percussion)  
Bachelor of Science: General Mathematics

## // PROFICIENCIES

### *Programming Languages*

**Most comfortable with:** C, Python, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, Max/MSP/Jitter, Pure Data (and external library development in C), Processing, SuperCollider

**Familiar with:** Bash, PHP, Tcl, Lua, Scheme, Common Lisp

**Other Music Software:** Audacity, Ardour, Ableton Live, LilyPond, Logic Pro, Pro Tools, Sibelius

**Other Software:** Linux, Vim, Emacs

## // LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

**Cloning Max/MSP Objects: a Proposal for the Upgrade of Cyclone** 2016  
Presentation with Alexandre Torres Porres and Matt Barber at PdCon16 (New York, NY)  
**The Electronic/Electroacoustic Performance Practice of John Cage's *Fontana Mix*** 2013  
Doctoral Lecture/Recital (Stony Brook, NY)

## // SOFTWARE PROJECTS

various Pure Data abstraction and external libraries: pdkm, pdkvabs, etc. 2016-17  
one of the main contributors to Pd's **Cyclone v0.3** Max compatibility library 2016-17

## // COMPOSITIONS/REALIZATIONS

**pinblue 52** - ambient, 15-EDO electronic Pd composition inspired by whale recordings 2018  
**mirror creatures** - improvisatory drone-centered composition realized in Pd 2018  
**product emotions and personality assessment** for live processed electric gtr + voice 2017  
**initial improvisation #1** for one or more melodic improvisers 2017  
**talus bear** for electric guitar 2017  
**dxk-sc140** - ongoing series of SuperCollider tweet-sized miniatures 2017  
**deep dark everblue** - slowburning, ambient, list-munging Pd environment 2017  
**airportmusic** - fixed-media sonification of Hong Kong airport arrivals and departures 2016  
**lucas-1%14\_0116** - electronic melodies in Pure Data based on Lucas numbers 2016  
**putchar** - a series of short fixed-media algorithmic compositions 2015

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| <b>socketMusic:wireless</b> for percussion and socket.io-enabled mobile devices                 | 2015 |
| <b>Love Letter</b> for solo hand drum and electronics after a postcard score by Liza Lim        | 2015 |
| <b>shoebox memories</b> for kalimba and SuperCollider   | 2014 |
| <b>magic smoke</b> for laptop, smartphone, inductive telephone pickup, and SuperCollider        | 2014 |
| a realization of <b>Earle Brown's December 1952</b> for radio broadcasts and found metals       | 2013 |
| a mosaic of acoustic and electronic realizations of <b>John Cage's Variations II</b>            | 2013 |
| <b>fiahwrkz</b> for 2-channel fixed media   | 2012 |
| simultaneous acoustic and electronic realizations of <b>John Cage's Fontana Mix</b>             | 2012 |
| <b>shimmer go slowly</b> for glockenspiel solo and Max/MSP                                      | 2012 |
| <b>silky anteaters</b> for piano, violin, electric guitar, double bass, vibraphone, and drumset | 2010 |
| <b>violetblue clouds forever</b> for flute, vibraphone, and glockenspiel                        | 2010 |
| <b>streetlight puddle night</b> for glockenspiel  | 2010 |

## // TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Music Department, UC Davis** (Davis, CA) 09/2017-12/2017

Temporary Lecturer

- Teaching the class Music 107A: "Introduction to Electronic Music" featuring a general overview of electronic music history (musique concrète, elektronische musik, soundscape composition, etc.) and studio basics (sound editors, DAWs, microphones, mixers, speakers, etc.) with a focus on fixed-media composition

## // PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Teaching Learning Lab, Stony Brook University** (Stony Brook NY) 09/2013 - 08/2015

Lab Assistant/Programmer

- Worked with faculty on interactive digital media projects (Max/MSP/Jitter, Pure Data/GEM, Processing, SuperCollider, etc.) investigating novel methods of human-computer interaction (webcam, Kinect, NeuroSky MindWave, etc.)
- Full-stack web application development (PHP, AngularJS, jQuery, etc.) for class-oriented learning tools and data visualization

**Music Library, Stony Brook University** (Stony Brook, NY) 07/2013 - 12/2013

Audio/Video Collections Manager

- Archival and reproduction of the music library's analog and digital media
- Oversaw music library technology (computer carrels, smart-board-equipped conference room, etc.)

**Computer Music Studio, Stony Brook University** (Stony Brook, NY) 08/2012 - 08/2013

Graduate Assistant

- Live sound reinforcement and technology management for music department concerts
- Setup and run a new campus recording studio

**Contemporary Chamber Players, Stony Brook University** 08/2011 - 06/2012

Graduate Assistant (Stony Brook, NY)

- Assist with the organization and planning of concerts and rehearsals

**Private Instructor in Percussion** (Flushing, NY)

09/2010 - 07/2011

Freelance

- Taught private lessons in percussion to students ranging from high school students to adults

## // SELECTED PERFORMANCES

**Fifth International Pure Data Convention (PdCon16)** (New York, NY) 2016  
Derek Kwan - *shoebox memories* (Pd version), Hans Tammen - Dark Circuits Pd Orchestra

**New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival** (New York, NY) 2016  
Derek Kwan - *airportmusic*

**UC Davis Shinkoskey Noon Concert** (Davis, CA) 2016  
Solo percussion/electronics recital featuring works by Derek Kwan, Jason Eckardt, Martin Matalon, and Karlheinz Stockhausen

**New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival** (New York, NY) 2015  
Derek Kwan - *shoebox memories* (2014/revised 2015) for kalimba and SuperCollider  
Nat Grant - *With the Inside Where the Outside Should Be* for vibraphone with digital integration

**New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival** (New York, NY) 2014  
Ethan Greene - *Lissajous* for vibraphone and Max/MSP

**Hell's Bells Percussion at Cloud City** (Brooklyn, NY) 2013  
Aaron Siegel - *Science is Only a Sometimes Friend*

**New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival** (New York, NY) 2013  
Mei Fang Lin - *Flux* for marimba and electronic sound

**Iktus Percussion at Make Music NY** (New York, NY) 2012  
Karlheinz Stockhausen - *Musik im Bauch* (execution/design of electronic sound)

**Stony Brook Contemporary Chamber Players** (New York, NY) 2012  
Du Yun - *Keep Something Broken* (world premiere)

**Bang on a Can Marathon** (New York, NY) 2011  
Anthony Gatto - *Portrait of Eva Hesse* for percussion ensemble

**Elevator Rose at Death By Audio** 2011  
Kwan - *silky anteaters*, Vasudevan Panicker - *i heart pulse v2.0*, Andriessen - *Worker's Union*

**Elevator Rose at Thalia Cafe, Symphony Space** (New York, NY) 2011  
Music by Derek Kwan, Laurence Goldman, Daniel Fine, and Patrick Kelley

**Talujon and Friends at Symphony Space** (New York, NY) 2011  
Alberto Ginastera - *Cantata para América Magica*

**Brooklyn Composers Collective at The Tank** (New York, NY) 2010  
Steve Reich - *Music for Pieces of Wood*, Amir Shpilman - *As If These Clouds* for percussion sextet (world premiere)

**Elevator Rose at Glasslands** (Brooklyn, NY) 2010  
Derek Kwan - *silky anteaters* (world premiere), Terry Riley - *In C*

**Diaghilev Multimedia Celebration** (New York, NY) 2010  
Igor Stravinsky - *Les Noces* (with the Princeton Chamber Choir, Columbia Classical Performers, and the Queens College Percussion Ensemble)

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| <b>Tibetan Singing Bowl Ensemble, Metropolitan Museum of Art</b> (New York, NY)                                | 2010 |
| Raphael Mostel - <i>Music for the October Moon</i>   |      |
| <b>David Schober Portrait Concert</b> (Flushing, NY)   | 2009 |
| David Schober - <i>Taepoong</i> for marimba  |      |
| <b>Manhattan Percussion Project</b> (New York, NY)   | 2009 |
| David Lang - <i>Anvil Chorus</i> for percussion solo   |      |
| <b>New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival</b> (New York, NY)   | 2009 |
| Courtney Brown - <i>losing love in magnetic time</i> for marimba and vibraphone (with Adam Forman, vibraphone) |      |

## // AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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| <b>Bang on a Can Summer Music Institute</b>             | 2010 |
| Performance Fellow (North Adams, MA)                    |      |
| <b>Balsam Award in Chamber Music</b> , Queens College   | 2010 |
| <b>Discimus ut Serviamus Award</b> , Queens College     | 2010 |
| <b>Allen Cohen Percussion Award</b> , Queens College    | 2009 |
| <b>Phi Beta Kappa</b> , University of California, Davis | 2008 |
| <b>soundSCAPE Composer and Performance Exchange</b>     | 2008 |
| Performance Fellow (Pavia, Italy)                       |      |
| <b>International Marimba Festival</b>                   | 2007 |
| Performance Fellow (Salzburg, Austria)                  |      |

## // RECORDINGS

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| <b>Antonio De Vlvo - Winds of Wood (Vientos de Madera)</b> | 2012 |
| Vibraphonist   |      |