



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, January 26, 2012

CONTACT: Lael Harris, Communications Manager
lael.harris@longy.edu; 617.876.0956 x1554

Longy's Unique Voices Welcomes Sō PERCUSSION

We Are All Going in Different Directions: A John Cage Celebration

Cambridge, MA: Closing the 2011-12 Unique Voices series, Brooklyn-based Sō PERCUSSION brings their experimental style to Boston with a program of John Cage and original works on Thursday, February 9, at 8:00 p.m. (Longy's Edward M. Pickman Hall). There will be an artist-audience discussion immediately following the program.

Using media ranging from record samples, junk percussion, and amplified conch shells, the 90-minute, intermission-free program pays tribute to the vast repertoire of John Cage. Says the group of the varied program, "Somehow Cage's prolific output seems not to stifle, but rather to spur creativity in others. He certainly deserves surveys, tributes, and concert portraits during the centenary of his birth. But we wanted to do him honor by allowing his work and spirit to infuse our own: the pieces are woven in with new music, some by our close friends, and some of our own creation."

With a performance roster including Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, and teaching posts at Bard College and Princeton University, Sō PERCUSSION has captured the attention of critics and music enthusiasts nationwide. Says Wayman Chin, Dean of the Longy's Conservatory and curator of Unique Voices: "Sō PERCUSSION is on the cutting edge of classical chamber music performance. They are redefining what collaborative music making is all about, and creating programs that are electrifying and riveting. We look forward to this special showcase at Longy."

Tickets: \$20 general admission / \$10 students and seniors

Please visit www.longy.edu to purchase tickets and for additional information.

Live concert Webcast: www.concertwindow.com

Sō PERCUSSION

Thursday, February 9, 8:00 p.m.; Edward M. Pickman Hall, Longy School of Music

No Intermission—app. 90 min.

Credo in US (1942)	John CAGE
PERCUSSION / MATMOS	Needles (2010) SŌ
Imaginary Landscape #1 (1939)	John CAGE
Quartet for Percussion, from <i>She is Asleep</i> (1943)	John Cage
"Bottles" from <i>Ghostbuster Cook:</i>	
<i>The Origin of the Riddler</i> (2011)	Dan DEACON
18'12", a simultaneous performance of Cage works	
-Inlets (Improvisation II) (1977)	John CAGE
-0'00" (4'33" No.2) (1962)	
-Duet for Cymbal (1960)	
-45' for a speaker (1954)	
24 x 24 (w/ special guests) (2011)	SŌ PERCUSSION
Third Construction (1941)	John CAGE

SŌ PERCUSSION will be selling advance copies of the group's limited-edition forthcoming release, *Cage 100: The Bootleg Series*. Inside the album's handmade cover are a blank LP (in a nod to Cage's iconic 4'33"), a sampler CD, and a download card giving the purchaser access to live recordings of "We Are All Going in Different Directions," recorded on tour by SŌ PERCUSSION. *Cage 100: The Bootleg Series* will be officially released March 27, 2012 on the Cantaloupe label.

BIO

SŌ PERCUSSION is: Eric Beach, Josh Quillen, Adam Sliwinski, and Jason Treuting

Since 1999, So Percussion has been creating music that explores all the extremes of emotion and musical possibility. Called an "experimental powerhouse" by the *Village Voice*, "astonishing and entrancing" by *Billboard Magazine*, and "brilliant" by the *New York Times*, the Brooklyn-based quartet's innovative work with today's most exciting composers and their own original music has quickly helped them forge a unique and diverse career.

Excitement about composers like John Cage, Steve Reich, and Iannis Xenakis - as well as the sheer fun of playing together - inspired the members of So to begin performing together while students at the Yale School of Music. A blind call to David Lang, Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and co-founder of New York's Bang on a Can, yielded their first commissioned piece, *the so-called laws of nature*. So's recording of *the so-called laws of nature* became the cornerstone of their self-titled debut album on Cantaloupe Music (the record label from the founders of Bang on a Can). In subsequent years, this relationship would blossom into a growing catalogue of exciting releases: Steve Reich's masterpiece *Drumming*; So member Jason Treuting's *amid the noise*; *Treasure State*, a collaboration with the electronic duo Matmos; and Paul Lansky's *Threads*.

So's ongoing body of original work has resulted in exciting new projects such as the site-specific *Music For Trains* in Southern Vermont and *Imaginary City*, a fully-staged sonic meditation on urban soundscapes commissioned by the Brooklyn Academy of Music for the Next Wave Festival 2009 in consortium with 5 other venues. So's next theatrical project *where (we) live* is slated to premiere in Fall of 2012.

So Percussion is increasingly involved in mentoring young artists. Starting in the fall of 2011, its members will be Co-Directors of a new percussion department at the Bard College-Conservatory of Music. This top-flight undergraduate program enrolls each student in a double-degree (Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of

Arts) course in the Conservatory and Bard College, and exposes them to both traditional western conservatory training and a variety of world traditions. The summer of 2009 saw the creation of the annual So Percussion Summer Institute on the campus of Princeton University. The Institute is an intensive two-week chamber music seminar for college-age percussionists featuring the four members of So as faculty in rehearsal, performance, and discussion of contemporary music for students from around the world.

So Percussion has performed their unusual and exciting music all over the United States, with concerts at the Lincoln Center Festival, Carnegie Hall, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Stanford Lively Arts, the Cleveland Museum of Art, and many others. In addition, recent tours to the United Kingdom, Russia, Australia, Italy, Germany, Spain, and the Ukraine have brought them international acclaim.

With an audience comprised of "both kinds of blue hair... elderly matron here, arty punk there" (as the *Boston Globe* described it), So Percussion makes a rare and wonderful breed of music that both compels instantly and offers rewards for engaged listening.

So would like to thank Pearl/Adams Instruments, Zildjian cymbals, Vic Firth drumsticks, Remo drumheads, Black Swamp Accessories, and Estey organs for their sponsorship.

About Longy School of Music

Located in Harvard Square, Longy School of Music is a degree-granting Conservatory that also offers a wide range of Community Programs for children (Preparatory Studies) and adults (Continuing Studies). With a curriculum rooted in the traditions of Western music, Longy serves 225 undergraduate and graduate students from 37 states and 21 countries, and nearly 1,000 children and adults from the Greater Boston area. Longy's overarching mission is to prepare musicians to make a difference in the world. For more information, including our concert schedule, directions, and information about classes and degree programs, visit our website at www.longy.edu.

###