

NEXUS

Bob Becker, Bill Cahn, Russell Hartenberger, Garry Kvistad

at the Minnesota Beethoven Festival

July 6, 2010

NEXUS, the Toronto-based percussion quartet, continues to expand the modern percussion ensemble's connection with new audiences. Since the group's first all improvised concert in 1971 they have performed in solo recitals and with symphony orchestras worldwide, captivating audiences with an eclectic mix of music that includes contemporary percussion masterworks, novelty ragtime, world music, group improvisations and compositions by the members of *NEXUS* themselves.

NEXUS was in stellar company. The 2010 Minnesota Beethoven Festival in Winona featured a world-class lineup of artists, including Yo-Yo Ma, Midori, and the Minnesota Orchestra. The performance by *NEXUS* at the St. Cecilia Theatre on July 6 was the first concert in the 4-year old festival with a focus on percussion music, and it was attended by a sellout crowd.

The program featured the first *NEXUS* performance in the U.S. of "Mallet Quartet" by Steve Reich which was co-commissioned by *NEXUS* and performed in Toronto on April 29 to rave reviews. Joining *NEXUS* for this performance was **Jason Treuting**, a member of the So Percussion Group, to round out the program with works from the *NEXUS* standing repertoire - two pieces by John Cage - "**Dance Music for Elfrid Ide**" and "**Chess Pieces**" (arr. Nozzy), "**Music for Pieces of Wood**" by Steve Reich, and "**The Invisible Proverb**" by Russell Hartenberger, along with the group's signature African-styled "**Tongues**" and "**Kobina**."



NEXUS rehearses "Dance Music for Elfrid Ide" at the St. Cecilia Theatre
L. to R. - Jason Treuting, Bill Cahn, Bob Becker, Russell Hartenberger, Garry Kvistad

"[NEXUS] . . . The panache of virtuosity, stamina, more than a hint of poetry and an infectious delight in their music making."

- The Australian

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