

To the Music Lovers,

My name is Aaron Guidry, and I want to melt your face \*and\* your heart with music.

For the past twenty years, I have performed over 8,000 shows, toured internationally, designed hundreds of Marching Band productions, composed award-winning soundtracks, and mentored countless students across the nation. I am currently the Musical Director and Drum Set Chair at Cirque du Soleil's "Mystère" in Las Vegas. Yes, the job is everything you'd think it would be, and I absolutely love it. But what really makes it wonderful is that, for the past two decades, I have been allowed to maintain my grounded roots with music education and foster further, deeper connections with music educators. I find that both music performance and music education feed a common discipline, and I owe the bulk of my creative output to that interconnection.

I invite you to peruse the materials I have included within this PDF to gain a small glimpse into how I, as a working performance-based musician, also maintain a close relationship with my passion as a pedagogy-based musician. If you look at nothing else, please make it this poem I wrote and dedicated to the young performers of Drum Corps International: <http://youtu.be/8WcJ4m3FyoI>. I titled it "Full Circle," as I felt it was a personal introspective into the culture of my learning process: never ending, yet oh-so rewarding!

Turn it up. It's going to be a fun ride.

Listen Beyond Your Ears,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron Guidry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Aaron Guidry  
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**& THE MUSIC**  
**WILL FOLLOW**



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WEEKLY Q&A

**PERCUSSIONIST  
AARON GUIDRY KEEPS  
THE BEAT FROM THE  
CIRQUE STAGE TO THE  
BUNKHOUSE**

OCTOBER 8TH, 2014

"I can play Radio City Music Hall with 6,000 people and it's like, 'Whatever, let's go play the show.' But if my dad's out there, I'm like, 'Oh my God! I'm gonna drop my sticks!'"



# AARON GUIDRY

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**THE DESIRE:**

Melt your face *and* your heart with music.

**THE SMARTS:**

M.M., West Virginia University  
B.M.E., University of Louisiana, Monroe, Suma Cum Laude  
Studied Traditional African Music and Dance in Ghana, West Africa

**THE SKILLS:**

Drum Set  
MachFive  
XyloSynth  
Steel Drums  
Ableton Live  
Apple OS and iOS  
KORG Instruments  
Marching Percussion  
Electronic Percussion  
Native Instruments Software  
Music Education/Outreach/Pedagogy

Kontakt  
EastWest Play  
Drobo Storage  
World Percussion  
Mallet Percussion  
Blue Microphones  
Open Labs SoundSlate  
Finale Notation Products  
MOTU Digital Performer  
Symphonic/Orchestral Percussion  
MIDI Virtual Instruments (8dio, Ivory, Output, UVI, etc.)

## THE GRIND:

### **Cirque du Soleil's "Mystère" (Current)**

- Musical Director and Drum Set
- Create live, on-the-spot musical arrangements for nearly 500 performances a year
- Rebuild and reprogram the entire Ableton Live System, including testing and integration
- Musical arrangements and performances heard on *Dancing with the Stars*, *America's Got Talent*, *LIB Music Festival*, *Vegas Golden Knights*, and *Shaq's Fun House Superbowl Party*

### **Cirque du Soleil's "Paramour" (Broadway)**

- Original Percussionist, including development of the Percussion Book
- Transcribe the complete Percussion Book into Finale Music Software
- Original Cast Soundtrack Recording

### **Cirque du Soleil's "Zarkana"**

- Original Percussionist (including Mallet Percussion) and Back-up Band Leader
- Participate in the Creation of the show, touring, and Las Vegas residency
- PR events, including performances, interviews, and television
- Heavily involved in programming Ableton Live, including a fully-integrated Back-Up System

### **Cirque du Soleil's "Mystère" (Former)**

- Percussionist, Taiko Soloist, Taiko Coach, Back-up Drum Set, and Back-up Band Leader
- Conduct rehearsals on taiko drumming, including choreography
- Schedule trainings, daily casting of Taiko Team acts, and manage artist progress
- Original compositions, arrangements and performances heard on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *The Mystery of Mystère*, and the *Latin Grammy Awards*

### **Music Editor, Composer**

- Feature length film: *Love Land*, soundtrack containing 60 minutes of original music
- Comedy: *Land of Kings* and *Colored Blind*, original soundtrack
- Live Theater: *The Nether* and *HIR*, Cockroach Theater, soundtrack and sound design  
Las Vegas Valley Theatre Awards 2016, Best Sound Design

### **Yata for Luda (ASCAP)**

- Self-published compositions, songs, poetry, and artwork ([www.YataForLuda.com](http://www.YataForLuda.com))
- Numerous national, state, and local awards for Marching Band compositions
- Presentations, masterclasses, and clinics, including the Percussive Arts Society

### **"Blast!" (U.S. Tour)**

- Percussionist and featured Snare Drum Soloist
- Coordinate warm-ups with the ensemble, as well as rehearsals and integrations

### **Tri-Tone Productions**

- Band Leader, Performer, Arranger, Orchestrator, and Conductor
- Run rehearsals and workshops with the music ensemble and dance ensemble
- Performances at *Festival Danse Encore*, Trois-Rivières, Quebec

### **"Azaguno" African Drum and Dance Ensemble**

- Performances at the *Seoul International Drum Festival* and *World Cup Soccer Finals*

### **San Antonio Symphony**

- Section Percussion

### **Band Director / Percussion Specialist, North East ISD, San Antonio, TX**

- Coordinate the Percussion Program, Grades 6 - 12
- Initiate a Percussion Curriculum encompassing Western and non-Western music
- Present Music Education workshops for Grades K – 5

## THE JABBER:

Feature: "Percussionist Aaron Guidry Keeps the Beat from the Cirque Stage to The Bunkhouse"  
*Las Vegas Weekly*: [www.yataforluda.com/las-vegas-weekly](http://www.yataforluda.com/las-vegas-weekly)

Scholarly: "From Olympian to Drummer: Taiko Training at Cirque du Soleil's *Mystère*,"  
*Percussive Notes*: [www.yataforluda.com/an-educated-man](http://www.yataforluda.com/an-educated-man)

## **THE TELLY:**

Movie Teaser:

<http://vimeo.com/76783867>

Producer and Arranger:

<https://soundcloud.com/meetuchilana/waheguru>

Taiko (with Cirque du Soleil at the Latin Grammy Awards):

<https://youtu.be/Fez861nAk3c>

Hands, Brushes, Sticks:

<http://youtu.be/JsPWUfL24zM>

Percussionist:

<https://youtu.be/k5Ih4tyDBks>

Poet:

<http://youtu.be/8WcJ4m3FyoI>

## **THE 411:**

Having completed an 8,000-show Las Vegas, Broadway and International Touring run as Percussionist with Cirque du Soleil's *Mystère*, *Zarkana*, and *PARAMOUR*, I am currently BBQing and taking it pretty easy in Sin City. Who am I kidding?! My "day job" has me composing music through [Yata for Luda](#), and my "night job" has me drumming as Musical Director with Cirque's *Mystère*. #AllWorkAllPlay

Prior to performing with Cirque du Soleil, I was Percussionist and Snare Drum Soloist with the U.S. Touring Cast of *Blast!*, as well as a performer in the African Drum and Dance Ensemble, *Azaguno*. Other past performances include *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *America's Got Talent*, *The Latin Grammy Awards*, and [Dancing with the Stars](#). #TVstuff

As an educator, I taught in the North East Independent School District, San Antonio, Texas, where I initiated a curriculum of World Percussion, including steel drumming, taiko drumming, and African drumming and dance. I organized numerous outreach programs and participated in organizations specifically geared towards those with physical and intellectual disabilities. My articles have been published in leading journals and publications such as "[Percussive Notes](#)." #SmartyPants

I earned a B.M.E. from The University of Louisiana at Monroe and a M.M. from West Virginia University. The Las Vegas Weekly wrote a [featured article](#) about me, and I even won a few soundtrack awards, including the Las Vegas Valley Theatre Awards "2016 Best Sound Design." Check out my writing for [film](#). (Yeah, that's totally me singing.) #DoReMiFaSol

If you've read nothing until now, don't miss this next part, as it's the most important: My mother took the time to drive me to private lessons every week, and for that, I am very thankful. #blessed

[Contact Me](#) for more information about whatever you'd like to know. #LaterOn

## **THE REACH OUT:**

### **Larry Anderson**

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### **Dan Morrison**

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Ronald Reagan High School (San Antonio, TX)  
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### **Andy Toth**

Visual Designer  
Marching Bands and Color Guards  
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XYLOPHONE CONNECTED-TO-THE SAXOPHONE  
SAXOPHONE CONNECTED-TO-THE VIBRAPHONE  
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**MUSIC FROM END ZONE TO END ZONE**

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**LISTEN BEYOND YOUR EARS**



**YATA FOR LUDA**

Yata for Luda composes music to be played on football fields, elevators, and your iPod.

My name is Aaron Guidry. I create music.

It's funny how music motivates us, politely pleading to Listen Beyond Your Ears. With this freedom, we are urged to break the rules. We are permitted to feel. We are granted the privilege to reinvent while being ourselves, both at the same time. And most importantly, we are encouraged to surf the wave that roars, "Nothing at all makes sense." But, maybe that's okay, because we are then invited into the radiant safety of being whatever we want to be. There are no ugly judgments there.

My name is Aaron Guidry. I perform music.

It's funny how when all the lights turn off, music becomes the lover that got away. Every note and rhythm is unique and different, empowering our anthems to have a life of their own. They can sucker punch and embrace us, both in the same breath. And most importantly, they can come and go, like a lost tumbleweed rolling along in the desert wind whispering, "Hurry home." But, maybe that's okay, because there is artistry in the unknown. There are no ugly judgments there.

My name is Aaron Guidry. I dream music.

It's funny how we're all tumbleweeds, adrift, just looking to snuggle up with that random chain link fence in the abandoned lot on the wrong side of town. The living spectacle is hideous and alluring, both staring us up and down. And most importantly, it is quite the oddball postcard yearning, "Wish you were here." But, maybe that's okay, because when we find the force that pushes back on us with an equal amount of love, we then bloom together. There are no ugly judgments there.

My name is Aaron Guidry. I am a lover.  
My name is Aaron Guidry. I am a fighter.

Let music be music. Let musicians be musicians. Let tumbleweeds be tumbleweeds. I politely ask you to Listen Beyond Your Ears. There, music is free to break the rules. Music is free to feel. Music is free to reinvent and be itself. And most importantly, music is free to surf the wave that roars, "Nothing at all makes sense." Let's run as fast as we can to the random chain link fence in the abandoned lot on the wrong side of town. I refuse to imagine my life without music. But, maybe that's okay, because there are no ugly judgments there.

Listen Beyond Your Ears,

Aaron Guidry



## **Unsolicited feedback reflecting the reach of my work**

**Date/Time:**

March 4, 2021 11:07 am

**Name:**

Tom Wade

**Email:**

[tomwade134@gmail.com](mailto:tomwade134@gmail.com)

**Subject:**

Thank You

**Message:**

Dear Mr. Guidry,

I hope you are having a wonderful day. My name is Thomas Wade, and I am currently a 5th-year senior finishing out my Bachelors of Music Education at Illinois State University. I am contacting you to thank you for being one of my main musical and artistic inspirations throughout the last ten or so years. I've had the idea of sending you an email a long time ago, but have never felt the time was right until now. Although we have never formally met, are about two-three generations apart, and possibly have never been within the same state, your work has continually been something I have admired and studied diligently. I first heard your work back at the Illinois State University Competition in 2010 where a band did "Beyond Perimeters." After that show, I was curious to know who created such a musical soundscape beyond just the students and director, and somehow I stumbled upon Yata for Luda and the Ronald Reagan 2002-2004 shows. The Reagan shows really cemented my love for the marching arts and usually when I run out of inspiration, I will go watch "Synergy," "Ritual," or "The Journey Within" to remember what true artistic expression is. To put into perspective, a lot of the people I have met through the marching arts (coming from all walks of life) always had one common aspect: a love for "Beyond Perimeters." In closing, I'd like to thank you once again for your amazing work and dedication to inspiring new musicians and educators everyday, even without realizing it. I hope someday we can meet and share chatter, and thank you again.

Sincerely,

-Tom Wade

# From Olympian to Drummer:

Taiko Training at Cirque du  
Soleil's *Mystère*

By Aaron Guidry



**W**hen I was in fifth grade, I had a very important decision to make. I could either take gymnastics or be in the band. I chose band. Nearly 25 years later, I am enjoying the best of both worlds.

Six years ago, I auditioned for entertainment giant Cirque du Soleil and won the job as percussionist with *Mystère*, Cirque's first resident show in Las Vegas. Since opening in 1993, *Mystère* has presented more than 7,000 performances for over ten million spectators exclusively at Treasure Island. Commonly referred to as the "flower in the desert," *Mystère* helped pave the way for other Cirque du Soleil creations in Las Vegas and abroad.

The band at *Mystère* consists of eight instrumentalists and two female singers. The music is very dependent on the acts that it accompanies, and for that reason, the show is never quite the same. The format and layout is similar every night, but musical phrases can be extended, shortened, or even cut altogether as cued by the action on stage. Many times, these changes occur on the fly with no advance warning. This allows for a degree of flexibility within the show and keeps the energy raw and exciting. I have yet to grow tired of performing *Mystère*, largely due to the organic nature of live theater and the awe-factor of Cirque du Soleil.

## TAIKO AT MYSTÈRE

At Cirque, rehearsals are called trainings, ensembles are called teams, instructors are called coaches, and performers are called artists. In addition to my chair as percussionist, I have several other responsibilities, one of which is Taiko Coach. As a coach, I train artists how to drum and ultimately be cast in the Taiko Team. Music accompanies nearly every act in *Mystère*, with taiko integrated into the Opening and Finale of the show. Approximately a third of the 80-member cast is trained to drum.

During the opening number, six drummers create pulsating rhythms that propel the world of *Mystère* into existence. These rhythms are the vital heartbeat, pounding with excitement as the journey unfolds. For the closing number, a 14-member team performs on various sized drums from the 16-inch shime daiko to the 72-inch okedo daiko, launching *Mystère* into the final celebration of the voyage.

From world-class gymnasts, to passion-

ate dancers, to larger-than-life characters, all artists share the ability to perform before an audience with precision, consistency and, above all, emotion. As Taiko Coach, it is my job to mold artists' hands and ears, to guide them from athlete to musician, and to teach musical qualities from technique to expressiveness. Through astonishing presentation, the *Mystère* Taiko Team represents an elegant strength and the synergy of beauty and power.

Each artist has a track for which he or she is responsible. This track usually consists of two main specialty acts and a variety of cues. If an artist's track calls for taiko, the training process begins upon arrival in Las Vegas for integration into the show. Prior to this, artists have completed a training process called "Formation" in Montreal, Cirque's headquarters. During Formation, artists are coached on skills specific to their primary acts. They do not, however, receive any drumming instruction. Taiko training all happens on-site in Vegas.

Where does one begin when teaching an Olympic-quality athlete the concepts of drumming and, more importantly, musicianship? I joke that it is very much like the days when I taught sixth-grade beginning percussion class, except I no longer have parent-teacher conferences! But seriously, once an artist's track has been confirmed, a timeline is then put in motion to gauge progress and plan accordingly. In fact, artists often ask me to provide them with a set of goals to reach within a certain timeframe. I attribute this

to their competitive background and strong work ethic, as artists at Cirque tend to be very performance-driven.

Just like music students, all artists begin with varying basic abilities, but the training process is generally broken down into three phases. Each phase contains specific goals and objectives that are built upon sequentially. To distinguish between the two taiko acts, the first is commonly referred to as Opening Drums and the latter as Finale Taiko. I will focus on the Opening Drums training process below.

## WEEKS 1–2: MOVING THE HANDS

During the initial training period, artists meet with me for at least two 30-minute sessions a week. There are instances when several new artists arrive at *Mystère* at the same time. When this occurs, we meet in a group session, but soon after, each artist trains one-on-one. Much like a private lesson, quicker progress is achieved when the focus is on the artist's individual needs.

The concentration for these two weeks is on moving the hands consistently while maintaining a relaxed and fluid range of motion. Exercises focus on hand placement, wrist and arm movement, and evenness of sound from hand to hand. The ultimate goal is to create a repertoire of exercises that will be used as warm-ups in future trainings. These exercises also serve as a springboard in learning the show music for Opening Drums.



*Mystère* artist Anna Panfilova trains Opening Drums.





PHOTO BY RICHARD TERRINE. COSTUME: DOMINIQUE LEMIEUX. COPYRIGHT CIRQUE DU SOLEIL INC.

Variations are created in the moment according to the artist's needs.

Trainings occur in a room with large dance-studio-style mirrors, making it easy to directly monitor motions and match movements. I play along, but also allow opportunities for the artists to play unaccompanied. Playing together quickly develops a degree of confidence, while playing individually gives the artist a soloistic perspective that can then be more easily critiqued. Because self-exploration is such an important part of development, personal playing time is allotted either at the beginning or end of each session.

Of particular note is that during these two weeks, no drums are used at all. The training room has a rubber floor that coincidentally provides great rebound, so it is used as our "drum." While this may seem odd, it is very functional and keeps the atmosphere casual and non-intimidating. The floor and mirrors provide the vehicle for establishing good technical habits that will move artists into the next phase of training.

## WEEKS 3–6: LEARNING THE ACT

Weeks 3–6 introduce more rhythms, techniques, and movements that will be used in actual show performance. The artists also begin to train on a real drum, usually of the *nagado* style. Mirrors in the training room continue to be a useful tool in showing the techniques of fluid motion and relaxed body movement. Many times I play directly oppo-

site the artist so that my sticking, movement, and timing can be imitated with more visual ease.

Each artist is given a practice CD that includes audio warm-ups and exercises broken down phrase-by-phrase at three different tempos: slow, medium, and show-tempo. The CD is meant to be used as a resource for play-along between trainings, but it is also used to reinforce listening skills and practice techniques during one-on-one sessions. The training room is equipped with a sound system that allows the artist to hear the audio with ease.

Due to staging and the natural acoustics of the *Mystère* theater, a click is used to coordinate the drumming during the opening of the show. Artists wear discreet in-ear monitors connected to a wireless receiver allowing them, but not the audience, to hear the click track. For this reason, a metronome is used throughout the duration of the trainings. The metronome is also used as a facilitator for ear training, a facet of musicianship that will ultimately factor into the artist's performance. Tempos provide a tangible weekly goal and are gradually increased based on progress.

As more rhythms and patterns are learned, references are gradually made to what is "clean" and what is "dirty." Artists are very familiar with what a clean ensemble statement in their field of specialty feels and looks like; however, they are now asked to determine what a clean ensemble statement *sounds* like. One training method is to play a repetitive

pattern in unison, with the artist following my tempo fluctuations. A variation of this approach is to split the pattern between one of us playing the primary rhythm and the other providing the underlying pulse. Both strategies train artists how to adjust accordingly when any modifications are needed. These exercises also raise awareness of clarity and teach holistic listening skills.

Musical notation is not necessary, and Opening Drums is taught by rote. Generally, counting is in eights as opposed to the standard four beats per measure. The reason for this is two-fold: first, most of the patterns are

in eight-count phrases; and secondly, artists are very familiar with counting in eights due to their background in movement. For artists who are more visual learners, cues are illustrated to represent small groups of patterns and phrases. References are made to note values and their relationships to one another, but learning to read music is not a necessary step in the process.

Inflections of the voice are also used in learning nuances to rhythms. One technique used periodically is to have the artist clap to a pulse while singing rhythmic phrases. This helps to solidify beat alignment as well as develop a feel for the rhythm itself. Another approach is to play and vocalize simultaneously. This facilitates coordination and assists in memorization. Being that Cirque is a multi-cultural company, employing artists from 19 countries at *Mystère* alone, English is not always the first language. Because of this, vocal inflection often provides a great tool for communication when lengthy explanations are simply not practical.

Opening Drums is played seated in a *yatai baishi* manner. This style of movement is essential in providing a visual energy and excitement as the world of *Mystère* gives birth. Just as exercises are used in learning to drum, exercises are also used in learning to drum *and move* at the same time. Choreographed motions are isolated and initially rehearsed away from the drum. A padded wall provides a comfortable back support and physical reference as rocking movements are coordinated



with the drumming. Additionally, hands are separated, giving the artist yet another perspective to draw upon when creating a mental snapshot of the rhythms and accompanying choreography.

Many times, trainings are filmed so that artists can step back, assess, and evaluate progress from an outsider's point of view. Videos of other performances are also compared and used as a standard on which to model. Once a strong understanding of rhythmic passages with choreography and movement is obtained, we are now ready to move into the final stages of preparation for performance.

## WEEKS 7–9: EXPLORING THE VENUE

After six weeks of training the artist has become very familiar with a routine set of exercises and, more importantly, how to apply those exercises to Opening Drums. This makes the learning process very streamlined when drawing references to techniques and correcting errors. All aspects of performance, from drumming to movement to listening, are now integrated into one complete thought. With these strong foundations, the focus moves to endurance, consistency, and increasing tempo.

Live tracks that were recorded during actual show performances are now utilized during trainings. These tracks, which are included on the practice CD, contain the click for the artist to follow, the music played by the *Mystère* band, and also the bandleader's vocal cues. Complete run-throughs using the live tracks become a normal part of training. These allow artists to gain a sense of what it will take mentally and physically to perform Opening Drums from beginning to end. Pacing and breathing is also a focus as artists train for endurance.

A big step in this phase is the move from the training room to the stage. Opening Drums is performed with the artists spread throughout the theater and suspended 30 feet above the audience. For this reason, stage trainings also involve non-drumming aspects specifically devoted to the artist's safety. Technicians are on hand to explain general procedures and administer the use of wireless receivers, in-ear monitors, safety gear, and harnesses. Emergency measures are also rehearsed should there be a need to initiate them at any point during the act.

Stage trainings present a new set of chal-

lenges. For one, the artist is now wearing in-ear monitors, allowing the click to be "internal" as opposed to sounding "external" through a speaker, as in the training room. Also, the artist's click is at a calculated milli-second delay from the theater's house system. This delay is used to synchronize the drumming with the band necessitated by a spatial difference between the house speakers and the taiko. Additionally, the drum and artist are now floating, rather than seated securely on the ground, creating new kinesthetic challenges.

Much like going from the practice room to the recital hall, stage trainings present issues that are inherent to the acoustics and environment of the venue. The artist is temporarily placed out of a comfort zone, but quickly learns to adapt by using the listening and technical skills that have been focused upon prior to this point in the training process. Show-condition run-throughs, complete with costuming, audio, rigging, automations, and lighting are rehearsed to recreate a realistic show environment. This training leads artists to full integration into the show.

## WEEK 10 and BEYOND: MAINTAINING THE SKILLS

Final details are communicated as artists are given official approval to perform as members of *Mystère's* Taiko Team. Once integrated, an artist remains in the taiko line-up for several shows. This allows time to develop familiarity with this facet of the track, as well as a true sense of drumming within the show environment. Artistic Management will give notes and direction as needed, and a video of every show is also used for consultation in refining the performance.

Should the artist's track call for Finale Taiko, several more trainings will be given specific to the Finale act itself. Exercises used during previous trainings will be further explored as the repertoire of rhythms, movements, and techniques is continually expanded. An additional six to eight weeks of training is usually required, and a similar process of learning, from training room to stage, is applied during integration. While Finale Taiko is a more technical act, the experiences gained through performing Opening Drums are used as a stepping-stone to accelerate this phase of instruction.

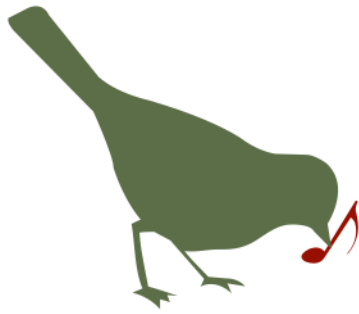
Trainings will gradually move from sessions focusing on individual needs to ensemble trainings where the concentration

is on the quality of the act as a team. These group trainings also serve the purpose of allowing back-up taiko artists the opportunity to rotate into the act and maintain their drumming skills. Back-ups are crucial in keeping the production running smoothly in emergencies without sacrificing show integrity. Ensemble trainings are scheduled periodically on an as-needed basis.

Many of the strategies used in the taiko training process at *Mystère* have been borrowed from my teaching experiences as a public school music educator; however, there is no one all-encompassing approach. Adapting the instructional path to an artist's personality and background helps make integration smooth and successful. This flexibility is commonly seen through the transformation of musical vocabulary into more familiar expressions. For example, rather than saying, "increase your dynamic," I might say, "create more energy." Rather than saying, "time accurately through the rests," I might say, "take a breath." And, rather than saying, "subdivide the beat," I might say, "fill up the space." This vernacular creates a level of comfort as artists develop skills that are essentially very foreign.

Just as the artists in *Mystère* never thought they would have a job that required them to play music, I never imagined I would be teaching Russian gymnasts how to drum! Artists welcome the challenge, and for me, experiencing music in this new way has been equally refreshing. Listen beyond your ears, and then, just as I have, you too will come to share a new dimension in your musical journey, wherever that might take you.

**Aaron Guidry** is the Percussionist and Taiko Soloist with Cirque du Soleil's *Mystère*. Additionally, he serves as Taiko Coach, back-up Drum Set Chair, and Assistant Band Leader. Aaron consults and arranges the wind books for competitive marching bands across the United States and also is the Music Designer for the Crossmen Drum and Bugle Corps. His compositions are published through Yata for Luda ([www.yataforluda.com](http://www.yataforluda.com)). Aaron holds a B.M.E. from the University of Louisiana at Monroe and a M.M. from West Virginia University. **PN**



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# Listen Beyond Your Ears.



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MUSIC FROM END ZONE TO END ZONE

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