



ALEX PETCU: *An Irish musician of Romanian origin, Alex is quickly establishing himself both nationally and internationally as a percussionist of the finest calibre.*

His recent appearances as a soloist with both the R.T.E. National Symphony and Concert Orchestras, and as the solo musician in Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" at the Abbey Theatre are some of his main highlights so far. He has also been chosen to be the National Concert Hall Rising Star recitalist and an artist in residence for the Cork School of Music for 2015.

As one of the few Irish percussionists to focus on solo and chamber music, Alex has championed and developed the existing repertoire by giving numerous recitals and working closely with composers. Recent engagements include a recital at the West Cork Chamber Music Festival, several appearances at the Kaleidoscope Night series, performances of new works for the Irish Composers Collective, and much more. He has also had successes in major national and international competitions. He recently won first prize at the Irish Freemasons Young Musician of the Year competition and reached the semi-finals at the Tromp International Percussion Competition, one of the most prestigious percussion competitions.

Alex is also an active freelance musician and has performed with most of the professional ensembles in Ireland such as the Crash Ensemble, Ireland's foremost contemporary music ensemble, and with the R.T.E. Symphony, R.T.E. Concert, Irish Chamber and Irish Baroque orchestras. In addition, he recently took part in the Lucerne Festival Academy, where he performed under the baton of Pierre Boulez, David Robertson and Peter Eotvos.

Aside from his performing activities, he is also an educator and has given lecture recitals at Ireland's universities, taught at the CIT Cork School of Music, tutored the percussion section of the National Youth Orchestra of Ireland and given a series of workshops for West Cork Music's "Tuning Up" outreach scheme.

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