

Southern Exposure March 24: Third Coast Percussion

Good morning from Southern Exposure!

Chicago's [Third Coast Percussion](#), a quartet fresh off their historic 2017 Grammy win for Best Chamber Music / Small Ensemble Performance, closes Southern Exposure's 2016-17 season a week from today: **Friday, March 24, 7:30pm**, USC School of Music Recital Hall. As always, this concert is free of charge. Come early to be assured of a seat.

*Patrons who have donated to reserve a seat for the season are encouraged to let me know via email reply if you do **not** plan to attend this concert, so we can release your seats early to make room for others.*

Third Coast, the first percussion ensemble ever to win a Grammy in a chamber music category, will be performing some of the music that has helped make them stars: Reich's iconic *Mallet Quartet*. (You can hear them playing the third movement of this piece live on the Grammys, along with improvising saxophonist Ravi Coltrane, [here](#)). The most ambitious piece on Third Coast's program, however, is perhaps Irish composer Donnacha Dennehy's *Surface Tension*, written for the ensemble. This is an astounding piece that includes tubing attached to drums in order to smoothly bend the pitch while playing, inspired in part by techniques used to play the bodhran, a traditional Irish frame drum.

Dennehy, who teaches at Princeton, will attend the concert and will speak about his piece. The program also includes works by Glenn Kotche, of the band Wilco, and Augusta Read Thomas, former composer-in-residence with the Chicago Symphony, both written for Third Coast. This Southern Exposure concert will feature visual art by Camden native and Columbia resident [J. Michael McGuirt](#), on display in the USC Music Library, School of Music second floor, during the weeks surrounding the concert.

Hope to see you next Friday!

Very best wishes,

Mike

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[Southern Exposure New Music Series](#)