West African music. In 1999 he traveled to Ghana to study and write his master's thesis on social and cult music of the Ewe people.

Eric’s extensive music background also includes award-winning performances on multicultural albums of rock, reggae, funk, blues, and Irish folk music. Some of these groups include The Lions, The Earful, Sligo Rags, and The Devastators. Eric continues to perform around the country with different groups. For the past year Eric has toured America with The Harlis Sweetwater Band.

When Eric is not performing, he is honing his skills as a recording engineer at his own studio aptly named Hartwell Music. His most recent project included producing the debut album for the Orange County group, Self Help.

**ABOUT JOHN MEZZANO**

John Mezzano has been playing drums and percussion since 1981. He has performed with ensembles ranging from symphony orchestras to drum lines, as well as many jazz and rock bands.

John holds a Bachelor of Science in Music Business from Millikin University in Decatur, IL, where he focused on commercial music performance and recording engineering. In 1996 John received the degree of Master of Fine Arts in African Music and Dance from the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts). At CalArts, he studied primarily West African music, particularly Ewe music, with Kobla and Alfred Ladzekpo, but also performed with various ensembles including the Latin Jazz Ensemble and the CalArts Balinese Gamelon. John has worked in the audio business since 1999, and still performs regularly.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Thursday, November 16, 2017:**
  BCCM Percussion Ensembles, Ted Atkatz, director 8:00pm Daniel Recital Hall Tickets $10/FREE

- **Thursday, October 12, 2017:**
  Caribbean Holiday Celebration, Dave Gerhart, director 8:00pm Daniel Recital Hall Tickets $15/10/5 children under 10

For ticket information please call 562.985.7000 or visit the web at: WWW.CSULB.EDU/COLECONSERVATORY
Horsetail/Togo Atsia features dancers with horsetails, many intense dialogues between the Atsimevu and the sogo and kidi drums, and a metric modulation where the 6 feel in the base tempo becomes the 4 feel at the fast tempo. Unfortunately we will not have any dancers for this piece tonight.

Origin: Southwest Togo and South East Ghana, Anglo Ewe
Drums: Lead—Atsimevu
Support—Many Dialogues; Sogo, Kidi, Kagan, Axatse, Gonkogui
Dance: Line, Horsetails

Agahu was created by the Egun speaking people of Dahomey/Benin. Its popularity spread to the Badagry area of Nigeria where Ewe fishermen encountered it and shared it with their people upon their return to Ghana. In the language of its creators, Agahu means “airplane”—in reference to an event that occurred during its inaugural performance. As Agahu spread, it has collected song texts in many languages including: Egun, Yoruba, Ewe, French, and English.

The Ewe version features two lead drums: a large barrel-sized drum called Agboba drum and the Sogo. The bell is in 4/4 with an up-tempo feel.

Origin: Benin/Egun, Nigeria, South East Ghana/Anglo Ewe
Drums: Lead—Agboba, Sogo.
Support—Sogo, Kidi, Kagan, Axatse, Gonkogui
Dance: Circle

About Ted Atkatz
Ted Atkatz is the founder of and frontman for the Los Angeles-based alternative rock group NYCO. He is a former principal percussionist for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO). Atkatz left the CSO in 2006 to devote himself full-time to NYCO. The band released its debut album, Two, in 2005.

Atkatz grew up in Queens, New York, where he began studying percussion at an early age. He studied at the preparatory division of the Manhattan School of Music and graduated from Benjamin N. Cardozo High School before moving on to Boston University, where he received a bachelor’s degree in percussion performance and music education. He later studied at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and received a professional studies degree in percussion performance from Temple University.

About Eric Hartwell
Eric Hartwell started his career with CSULB eleven years ago as an Artist in Residence. Currently, as an Adjunct Faculty, Eric teaches the World Music Percussion Group. Eric’s pedigree stems from the renowned California Institute of the Arts where he received his bachelor’s and master’s in World Music Percussion Performance. Under the tutelage of the famous Ladzekpo brothers and Beatrice Lawluvi, Eric specialized in traditional...