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. NYCO released its second album, *Realize*, in June 2008, and its third album, *Future Imperfect*, in October 2012.

**UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION GROUP**
Ted Atkatz, director
Damien De La Cruz
Tyler Hunt
Evan Perkins
Kevin Sakamoto
Jazper Saldana

**CSULB PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**
Ted Atkatz, director
Julio De Leon
Matthew Gilbert
Adam Lopez
Paul Park
Efrain Ramirez
Frank Rodriguez
Jonathan Shih
Adrian Tamez
Connie Truong
Isabelle Zapata
Lucas Zumbado

**UPCOMING EVENTS**
- **Tuesday, November 18, 2014:**
  Percussion Chamber Music / University Percussion Group, Ted Atkatz, director 8:00pm Daniel Recital Hall $10/7
- **Friday, November 21 & Saturday, November 22, 2014:**
  Bob Cole Conservatory Symphony Orchestra in Collaboration with CSULB School of Dance presents: *Fusion*, Johannes Müller-Stosch, conductor 8:00pm Carpenter Performing Arts Center $25/20
- **Tuesday, December 2, 2014:**
  Concert Band and Brass Chamber, Jermie Arnold & Rob Frear, conductors 8:00pm Daniel Recital Hall $10/7
- **Friday, December 5, 2014:**
  Caribbean Holiday Celebration, Dave Gerhart, director 8:00pm Carpenter Performing Arts Center $15/10/5 (children under 10)

For upcoming events please call 562.985.7000 or visit the web at: www.csulb.edu/coleconservatory
PROGRAM

Music for Pieces of Wood .................................................. Steve Reich (b. 1936)

Toccata ............................................................................. Carlos Chavez (1899-1978)
   I. Allegro, sempre giusto
   II. Largo
   III. Allegro un poco marziale

INTERMISSION

Sharpened Stick ...............................................................Bret Dietz (b. 1981)
   University Percussion Group

Everything In Its Right Place .............................................Radiohead
No Surprises arr. Doug Wallace (b. 1971)
   James Medway—electric bass

African Welcome Piece ....................................................Michael Udow (b. 1949)
   Madison Hatten, Clare Bellefeuille-Rice, Kelsey Knipper, Michaela Blanchard,
   Regan MacNay & Desireé Gonzales—soprano/alto
   Andrew Konopak, Mason Allred, & Ulysses Aquino—baritone/bass
   Kevin Sakamoto—guest percussionist

PROGRAM NOTES

Music for Pieces of Wood Steve Reich is an American composer
who was an early pioneer of minimal music. Music for Pieces of Wood is written for
five sets of claves, each with specific pitches. The piece has three sections in which
a rhythmic ostinato is established by two players, and the remaining three players
join individually, creating new patterns. The sections are in 6, then 4, then 3.

Toccata Carlos Chavez was a Mexican composer, conductor, music
theorist, educator, journalist, and founder and director of the Mexican Symphonic
Orchestra. He was influenced by native Mexican cultures. His Toccata, composed
in 1942, is a critically acclaimed piece for a chamber percussion ensemble.

Sharpened Stick is a Native American war song and dance that is in
the “fish-step” style. It is said that the popular 1920s dance craze the ‘Charleston’
was derived from this dance. At certain points of the composition, the performers
shout “YO-HO”—in Native American music, this is sounded by the ‘head singer’
and signifies a change of direction in the music as well as a change in the direction
of the dance. The “WHOO!” indicated at the end of the piece should be very high
and shrill in pitch.

—Brett Dietz

Everything in Its Right Place and No Surprises The music of the English rock band Radiohead has been covered by countless
artists; Doug Wallace has arranged these two songs, released in 2000 and 1997, for
percussion group, accompanied by electric bass.

African Welcome Piece The composer’s avid interest in African
Music occurred while studying with Bill Amawku, a master drummer and
professor at the University of Ghana. Bill was teaching musicology at the University
of Illinois during the 1970-71 school year. He grew up in the Eve Province in the
Akan Community of Ghana. There are three modes of drumming: the signal, the
talking and the multilineal modes. African Welcome Piece uses, extensively, the
multilineal mode of drumming. This mode often accompanies dances in the tribe.
There are three specific rhythms used in the is work. The first, the Agbadzá is a
polyrhythmic structure ion 12/8 and 6/8 meters. The second, the Tigeré Dance,
is a cross rhythm in 6/8. The third, called the Hi-Life, is a cross rhythm in 2/4 is
a modern African restructuralization of an older rhythmic mode. Mr. Udow has
taken these three rhythms and composed this work with the energy and spirit
which exist in all African communities.

—Fred Wickstrom

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.