

Matthew Coley

Hungarian cimbalom

Appalachian hammered dulcimer

& Western percussion



Contact information

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Dear Orchestra,

I am delighted to present this press kit for you. I have been performing on dulcimers for nearly 20 years and I hope that one day I will be able to perform with your ensemble. I have experience in many settings, from chamber music to solo performances, world music to transcriptions, and performing several new premieres and modern works. Below you will find a list of repertoire I have performed, a short biography, online media links, and fee information. Additionally, I am able to fill in as a percussion section player as needed (experience listed below) when performing as a cimbalom or hammered dulcimer soloist with an orchestra.

I hope to hear from you soon to schedule a future performance. Thank you!

A handwritten signature of Matthew Coley in black ink, written in a cursive style.

Selected repertoire

- *Rhapsody No. 1 for Violin and Orchestra* (Cimbalom) – Béla Bartók
- *Hungarian Dance Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 5* – Johannes Brahms (Cimbalom and Orchestra)
- *Briu* – Sergiu Crețu/arr. Valeriu Luță/Coley (Cimbalom and Orchestra)
- *Fantezie* – Sergiu Crețu/arr. Valeriu Luță/Coley (Cimbalom and Orchestra)
- *La plus que lente* – Claude Debussy (Cimbalom and Orchestra)
- *Concerto in C Major; I. Moderato* – Joseph Haydn (Cimbalom [originally for Cello] and Orchestra)
- *Háry János Suite* – Zoltán Kodály (Cimbalom and Orchestra)
- *Fantasia Concertante for Two Cimbaloms and Wind Ensemble* – Csemiczky Miklós
- *Czárdás* – Vittorio Monti (Cimbalom and Orchestra)
- *Ragtime* – Igor Stravinski (Cimbalom and Orchestra)
- Willing to prepare new repertoire, and enjoy working on commission/premiere projects.



Biography

Matthew Coley is an internationally acclaimed performer and the artistic director of the Heartland Marimba Festival. He has been described as "off the charts" (John Cook, Westminster Presbyterian Fine Arts Series, Des Moines, IA), while "delivering virtuoso...exquisite soloing on marimba" (Lauren



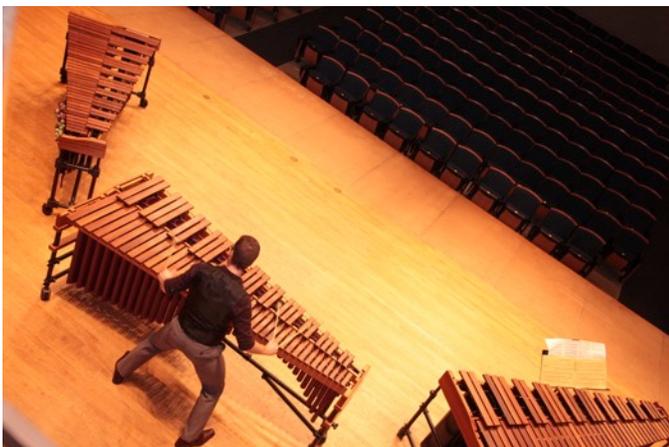
Warnecke, seechicagodance.com). Performing on marimba, percussion, hammered dulcimer/cimbalom, and glass, Matthew travels regularly bringing the beauty of the marimba's singing wood and the diverse timbre of other percussion and dulcimers to many audiences. About his dulcimer performing it has been written that “Coley rips across the strings of the hammered dulcimer with abandon bordering on delirium!” (Linda Shapiro, Chicago Press Review). Matthew has performed in over 30 US states, 10 countries, and as a soloist with ensembles throughout the US and abroad including Clocks in Motion Percussion, Heartland Marimba Festival Collective and Quartet, Sudar Percussion of Croatia, San Francisco Sinfonietta, Kurpfälzisches Kammerorchester Mannheim, and Moldavian Philharmonic and Teleradio Symphony Orchestras.

Released in 2012, Matthew’s second album *Souvenirs* establishes him as one of the most innovative and exciting artists of his kind. Adam Blackstock (Troy University) wrote of it in the July 2012 *Percussive Notes*, “If you are in search of a disc with great recording quality, a high level of performance, and an eclectic collection of tracks, this title should be added to your iTunes wish list. *Souvenirs* delivers 80 minutes of diverse works...” Other critically acclaimed solo albums include, *Circularity* (“most enjoyable...world-class performing,” [2010, Jason Baker, *Percussive Notes*]) and *Between the Lines* (“performed luminously, with intense vigor” [Brett Dietz, *Percussive Notes*]), which is a collaborative disc of all of Neil Thornock’s percussion music, released in early 2015 on New Focus Recordings.

Matthew has performed as a section percussionist with several orchestras throughout the nation, including the San Diego Symphony, Dubuque Symphony, Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony, Rockford Symphony, and Illinois Philharmonic Orchestras. He has won several prizes from national and international solo competitions and holds percussion performance degrees from Northwestern University (DM and MM) and the University of North Texas (BM).

Media links

- *Brîu* – Sergiu Crețu/arr. Valeriu Luță/Coley (Cimbalom and Piano)
 - YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnK4_ir06lM&list=PLKCCypV-8nrY6dIvYaF7RptF0mrBeSMKz&index=3
- *Fantezie* – Sergiu Crețu/arr. Valeriu Luță/Coley (Dulcimer and Percussion Trio)
 - YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdVesXNomml>
- *Háry János Suite* – Zoltán Kodály (Cimbalom and Piano)
 - *III. Song* – YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uwb4gRnQa4o&list=PLKCCypV-8nrY6dIvYaF7RptF0mrBeSMKz&index=1>
 - *V. Intermezzo* – YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-z4LQCxDuQ&index=2&list=PLKCCypV-8nrY6dIvYaF7RptF0mrBeSMKz>
- *Czárdás* – Vittorio Monti (Cimbalom and Violin)
 - YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8CKLv0MSpw&list=PLKCCypV-8nrY6dIvYaF7RptF0mrBeSMKz&index=7>
- *Ragtime* – Igor Stravinski (Cimbalom and Orchestra)
 - SoundCloud: <https://soundcloud.com/matthew-coley/ragtime-by-igor-stravinsky>



Fee information

- Fee – Performance with orchestra on cimbalom or hammered dulcimer – \$3500
- Travel – In most cases I will drive my own instrument. – \$0.36 per mile
- Hotel – Covered during travel, rehearsal, and performance schedule.
- Meals – \$30 per diem during rehearsal and performance schedule.
- Standard contracted rates apply when also playing as an extra in the percussion section for other pieces.