



BELMONT UNIVERSITY

School of Music

presents



GRADUATE RECITAL

MASSEY CONCERT HALL

OCTOBER 2, 2021

4:00 P.M.

Brandon Prigg

Drums

Hold to His Hands	Wilson
When the Battle is Over	Hawkins
Since He Came	Dillard
This is the Day	Hammond
Bless the Lord	Tribbett
Not the End of the World	Perry arr. Huff
Caught Up	Raymond
Just Dance	Germanotta/ Thiam/Khayat
Never be the Same	Cabello
Rock Your Body/ Can't Stop the Feeling (Medley)	Timberlake

Support Musicians

Marcus Perry, keys

Sean Carrol, bass

Vance Mazure, guitar

Luc Digiuseppe, guitar

Andriana Haygood, vocals

David Andrews, vocals

Kynadi Echols, vocals

Brandon Prigg is a student of Todd London.

This recital is in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree
Master of Music with a major in Commercial Music, Performance emphasis.



Program Notes

Hold to God's Unchanging Hand

"Hold to God's Unchanging Hand" has been a staple hymn within the black church. It was written by Jennie B. Wilson in 1906. The popularity of this hymn has led to its publication in 82 hymnals. This hymn was chosen for my recital to highlight the quartet gospel drumming style. In gospel quartet music, the drummer's job was to keep solid time, playing 1 & 3 on the kick drum and 2 & 4 on the snare and hi-hat cymbals.

When the Battle is Over

This song was written by Walter Hawkins and released on his 1993 album, *Love Alive III*. The drummer featured on this song was Hawkins' nephew, Joel Smith. Smith's musical approach within gospel drumming was very funk influenced. His grooves within this song specifically consisted of a variety of syncopated kick drum patterns and ghost notes played on his snare.

Since He Came

Gospel choir music has been a staple sound throughout the history of gospel music.

This song was written by Ricky Dillard in 2020. Ricky Dillard has been considered one of gospel's most innovative choir masters of his time. His style has drawn inspiration from gospel artists such as Walter Hawkins and James Cleveland. The drummer on this recording is Brent Easton. He is known for incorporating the double bass pedal in gospel drumming. He has also been known for his speed and aggressiveness around the drum set.

This is the Day

This song was arranged and performed by Fred Hammond. It was on his album, *Free to Worship*, released in 2006. The drummer featured on this song was Calvin Rodgers. Rodgers has been considered one of the pioneers for contemporary gospel drumming. This song highlights Rodgers' speed around the drums.

Bless the Lord

This song was an arrangement of the classic gospel hymn, "Bless the Lord Oh my Soul." It was arranged and performed by Tye Tribbett. This arrangement has a Latin nuance to the groove. The drummer on this arrangement was George "Spanky" McCurdy. He is known for his ability to incorporate metric modulations within his playing.

Not the End of the World

This song was performed by Katy Perry. This particular arrangement was created by a Belmont student, Nick Huff. The motive behind his arrangement was to replicate the arranging style of music director, Adam Blackstone. Being that Blackstone has worked with the previous drummers listed in the program, his arrangements often provide space for the drummer to showcase their musical abilities around the drums. The goal is to showcase the similar gospel influenced drumming that is evident in this style of arranging for live shows in secular music.

Caught Up

This song was performed by Usher. The drummer featured on this performance was Aaron Spears. Spears was raised in the Pentecostal church. The Pentecostal upbringing is what shaped his playing as a drummer from a young age. Spears is known for virtuosity around the drums. In this particular performance that I plan to replicate, Spears incorporates gospel influenced fills within certain sections of the song such as the band interlude and the vamp.

Just Dance

This song was performed by Lady Gaga, featuring the drummer Chris Johnson. Chris cultivated his love for drumming through being the drummer for his father's church. This performance showcases Johnson's versatility around the drums especially towards the end of the arrangement as the song progressively becomes more aggressive in terms of dynamics.

Never be the Same

Chris Johnson was also the drummer for this performance. The artist that performed this song was Camila Cabello. The style of this song is a pop ballad. This performance showcases Johnson's dynamic range as a drummer and his ability to guide the music into different dynamic shifts within the arrangement.

Rock Your Body/Can't Stop the Feeling Medley

This song was performed by Justin Timberlake. The particular live arrangement that I will perform was created by Timberlake's music director, Adam Blackstone. The drummer that originally performed on this live performance was Brian Fraiser-Moore. Moore has had experience playing for a plethora of secular artists from Timberlake to Madonna. When interviewed through podcast and other platforms, he often pays his respects towards his gospel background. In this particular performance, the song is arranged so that his gospel drumming style is highlighted by the way he rhythmically sets up prominent musical hits within the arrangement.