

Long Bio

Drummer Christian Euman was born and raised in the south suburban areas of Chicago, IL, and he received his first drum set at the age of 4. Although his parents were not full-time musicians (his father, an electric bassist and his mother, a choir singer), Christian was surrounded by enough music in his home, school, and church, which preserved his interests through his years growing up.

Christian began his percussion studies at age 10, when he was given the opportunity to join his school band. Throughout middle school, he would participate in many all-district and state concert and jazz ensembles, in some cases being the first chair drummer/percussionist. While attending a jazz camp during his sophomore year of high school, he was given a copy of Art Blakey's "Mosaic" album and soon realized that this level of creativity and *freedom* was something he wanted to pursue in music as a career.

With increased motivation, Christian continued to pursue as much musical study as he could, garnering him many high school awards and honorable ensemble placements, including the drum chair in the Honors Jazz Combo at the Illinois Music Education Association All-State Jazz Festival and the pit orchestra for a statewide production of *Hairspray*.

In 2009, Christian began attending Western Michigan University, pursuing a Bachelors degree in jazz studies. He studied jazz drum set with Keith Hall and visiting artist Billy Hart, classical percussion with Judy Moonert, and composition, ensemble playing, and other topics with Scott Cowan, Andrew Rathbun, and others. During his time at WMU, Christian was afforded an unbelievable amount of opportunities to perform with and compose/arrange for many incredible jazz musicians, including Donny McCaslin, Edward Simon, Tim Hagans, the New York Voices, and more. He also performed in a few significant situations outside of his schooling, including performances with Robert Glasper and Kris Bowers.

In 2010, Christian auditioned for the Percussive Arts Society International Drum Set Competition and was hand-selected by Peter Erskine, Ed Soph, and others as a finalist. In front of a judging panel including Matt Wilson, Stanton Moore, and Jeff Hamilton, he placed second overall.

Christian also participated in a slew of musical theatre performances all around the state of Michigan and the Chicagoland area, including a stint as the sub drummer in the hit production of the musical *Crowns* at Chicago's Goodman Theatre.

Christian graduated from WMU summa cum laude in 2013. Subsequently, he moved back to Chicago and immersed himself into the vibrant music scene. During this time, he was provided opportunities to perform with many incredible artists, including Kurt Elling, Geof Bradfield, Marlene Rosenberg, Robert Irving III, Matt Ulery, the Chicago Childrens Choir, and many others. Christian was also featured as a bandleader in a few performances, appearing in shows with his quintet and octet.

Christian successfully auditioned into the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Performance, a full-tuition masters program in jazz studies at the Herb Alpert School of Music at UCLA. Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Jimmy Heath, James Newton, and Kenny Burrell were the auditioning panel, and he was selected as the only drummer from a list of some of the most talented, young musicians in the world.

Christian has studied and performed with a few legendary figures in jazz music, including Hal Crook, Stefon Harris, Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Chris Potter, Lewis Nash, and many more. He has also studied drums with Jamire Williams and Joe La Barbera, as well as composition and arranging with Billy Childs. The Monk Institute ensemble has headlined at the Jazz Educators Network Conference, the Playboy Jazz Festival with Hancock and Shorter, and at shows all over Morocco with Hancock and Dee Dee Bridgewater.

As a professional musician in the Los Angeles area, Christian has performed and toured with many celebrated artists, such as Billy Childs, Kurt Elling, Geoff Keezer, Walter Smith III, and more. He was included on a list of the “six drummers you should know about,” written by Revive Music, and is heavily involved in LA’s music scene as a bandleader and sideman.

Christian is a proud endorser of Canopus Drums.