

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Music and Theatre

SI2
Sonic Inertia Duo



Cory Hills & Matthew Coley

Tuesday, September 29
7:30 pm
Martha-Ellen Tye
Recital Hall

CORY HILLS IS SPONSORED, IN PART, BY THE ALVIN EDGAR FUND FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS - A PART OF THE IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION.

SI2 (*Sonic Inertia Duo*) is an improvisational, multi-disciplinary arts group comprised of percussionists and composers, **Matthew Coley** and **Cory Hills**. They bring a unique quality of performance and repertoire to the stage, performing music from all time periods on all percussion instruments. Coley and Hills fuse elements of world and folk music with elements of western classical music through the use of a zarb, hammer dulcimer, and world percussion instruments.

SI2 has performed in unique venues across the United States, and will make their European concert debut in September 2009 as featured artists at the Days of New Music International Festival in Chisinau, Moldova. SI2 is endorsed by Innovative Percussion.

Storytelling is a method of communication that has spanned the ages. Stories can serve as oral histories, religious doctrines, or simple bedtime entertainment. This project fuses elements of contemporary-classical percussion with elements of vocal storytelling.

The connection between vocal storytelling and percussion can be seen throughout history and while the art of storytelling is slowly fading away, the increase of globalization brings the opportunity to tell stories in a different way to new audiences. In *The Percussive Art of Storytelling* Hills creates characters and events that are memorable to a young audience and amusing to an older one. His original stories use light language, consistent form, humor, and relevant content. *The Lost Bicycle* teaches that good things happen when you least expect them, *The Magic Shoes* says that hard work can help you achieve a goal, and *Aurora Borealis* tells us that that working together is a great way to solve problems.

The characters are diverse and the underlying goal is to teach young children that it doesn't matter who we are or where we are from.