

Charles Joseph Pickering

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Summary

Percussionist specialising in a musical theatre field. Dedicated to strengthening my knowledge and technical abilities in a wide range of percussion instruments, thinking contextually to bring the score to life with the relevant authenticity.

Skills

- Talented sight reader, innovative in realising percussion part with MDs.
- Versatile (proficient in both acoustic and electric drums, xylophone, timpani, congas etc.)
- Focused, dedicated and reliable.
- Outgoing and friendly
- Ever-expanding repertoire of percussion skills
- Increasing knowledge of applicable situations (musical genres, period pieces, size of ensemble, etc)

Work History

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| • Dick Whittington | Theatre Royal Winchester 2019 |
| • Peter Pan | Mayflower Theatre 2019 |
| • Honk! UK Tour | UK Tour 2019 |
| • The Pajama Game | PPA Guildford 2019 |
| • Up Next Gala Event | National Theatre 2019 |
| • Return to the Forbidden Planet | Theatre Royal Winchester 2019 |
| • Beauty and the Beast | Theatre Royal Winchester 2018/19 |
| • Salad Days UK Tour | UK Tour 2018 |
| • Les Miserable | Mayflower Theatre 2018 |
| • Seussical | The Venue, Bushey 2018 |
| • A Funny Thing Happened on the Way | The Bridewell Theatre 2018 |
| • Fiddler on the Roof | Theatre Royal Winchester 2018 |
| • Peter Pan | Theatre Royal Winchester 2017/18 |
| • Imagine This | The Union Theatre 2017 |
| • Up Next Gala Event | The National Theatre 2017 |
| • Honk! | The Union Theatre 2017 |
| • Blondel (realised and assisted writing) | The Union Theatre 2017 |
| • Salad Days | The Union Theatre 2017 |
| • Guys and Dolls | Mayflower Theatre 2017 |
| • Pirates of Penzance | Mayflower Theatre 2016 |
| • Oliver | Mayflower Theatre 2015 |
| • 5 of the Best | Mayflower Theatre 2014 |
| • Buggy Malone | Mayflower Theatre 2013 |
| • Anne of Green Gables | Mountview Academy 2016 |
| • Jason and the Argonauts | LSMT 2016 |
| • Sweet Charity | PPA Guildford 2016. |
| • Great Jewish American Songbook | Upstairs at the Gatehouse 2016 |
| • COUGAR the Musical | Belgrade Theatre Coventry 2015 |
| • Cinderella | Theatre Royal Winchester 2016 |
| • Jack and the Beanstalk | Theatre Royal Winchester 2015 |
| • Sleeping Beauty | Theatre Royal Winchester 2014 |
| • Snow White and the 7 Dwarves | Theatre Royal Winchester 2013 |
| • Aladdin | Theatre Royal Winchester 2012 |
| • Soho Cinders | Urdang Academy 2015 |
| • Lend me a Tenor | Urdang Academy 2015 |
| • Ragtime | Urdang Academy 2015 |

Drummer for 'The Spitfire Sisters' <http://www.thespitfiresisters.com> (2012 – present); a close harmony vocal trio playing swing and big band music. Many concerts including National and International appearances, festivals, tours for

The National Trust, theatre shows and music hall shows. Two studio album performances and a live album. BBC Radio Solent live appearance.

Drummer for The Sassenachs Ceilidh band.

Drummer on the books for 'Tailored Entertainment' <http://www.tailored-entertainment.com> function bands.

Drummer for 'Wire People'. An electro/rock band based in Leeds. Realised and performed drum parts. EP studio performance.

Principal percussionist for many years for Winchester Youth Orchestra performing in many concert halls throughout the South West. Selected as part of a National Youth Orchestra to perform in the Youth Proms at the Royal Albert Hall. Have since returned in a professional capacity to assist young percussionists.

Drummer for Hannah Castleman; a singer/songwriter based in London and Winchester. Written, realised and performed drum parts for an EP recording. Many live shows and performances.

Education

- BMus in Contemporary Music Performance at Tech Music School London.
- Grade 8 distinction in Drum Kit. Trinity Guildhall.

Testimonials

- "I have used Joe on many productions from the National Theatre to studio TV sessions, ranging from swing jazz to musical theatre to all out rock. Joe is a terrific and inspiring musician who both reads well and always is willing to work in any method including improvisation, so brings a great deal of his own personality and a desire to make his drumming and percussion skills central to the music." - Simon Slater – Composer and Arranger. - <http://slatermusic.com/>.
- "In the many years that I have worked with Joe, playing for large scale concerts, theatre shows and recording work, I have always been impressed with his drumming. He is fiercely dedicated to his art and his professional reputation is of the utmost importance to him. He has an unrivaled energy that he brings to our performances and is very quick to follow direction. His versatility is also a great strength, playing anything from a fully notated chart to a freely improvised medley, he always executes it with great assurance and understanding of the music. I love you, Joe. Don't ever leave me." - Louisa Revolta – Composer and performer - <http://www.thespitifiresisters.com/>
- "Joe has played percussion and kit for me on a few shows now and I will certainly be checking his availability again for future productions. He is a fantastic player of his instrument(s) and has great musicianship and attention to detail. He has always been quick to adapt to changes made in the score which I think is vital when working on a new musical production. Joe is a really lovely chap and has always got on very well with his fellow band mates and the cast. I have always found him to be reliable and well prepared and I would wholeheartedly recommend him to other musical directors and fixers." Neil MacDonald, Musical Director.
- "Joe is an outstanding drummer who is also very highly skilled on tuned percussion. Alongside precision score reading, he is able to quickly understand the musical style or dramatic function of a particular piece of music and evolve, upgrade and embellish the part accordingly. His commitment and professionalism are second to none, and he also brings a warm and generous attitude to the work which often filters down to the other players around him. As a result he is totally at home in a standard music set up, or something more bespoke, for these reasons I would happily recommend him for all types of work." Tom Attwood, Musical Director, Sound Designer