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Guest Artist Convocation: Ksenija Komljenović, Percussion; November 2, 2023

Ksenija Komljenović

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**Illinois State University
Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts
School of Music**

Guest Artist Convocation

Ksenija Komljenović, *Percussion*

**Kemp Recital Hall
November 2, 2023
Thursday Morning
11:00 p.m.**

Program

Please silence all electronics for the duration of the concert. Thank you.

Selections from the following:

Opening (1982)	Philip Glass (born 1937)
Attraction (2019)	Emmanuel Séjourné (born 1966)
Well-Groomed (2019)	Viet Cuong (born 1990)
This Morning My Rose Blossomed (1960) arranged by Ksenija Komljenović	Petar Tanasijević (1932-2016)
Question and Answer time with the soloist	



Biography

Ksenija Komljenović, a Serbian percussionist, educator, and composer, earned acclaim as a prizewinner of the International Percussion Competition Luxembourg. She is the first Serbian woman with a Doctor of Musical Arts in Percussion Degree. Ksenija serves as a faculty member at the renowned University of North Carolina School of the Arts, following four years of teaching at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Ksenija's dedication to contemporary and chamber music, alongside intercultural collaborations, is evident in her ensembles Vesna Duo and PNEUMA, bringing together exceptional performers from five countries. Her bold arrangements of classical, contemporary, jazz, and folk music enrich the repertoire and bring a unique flair to their performances. Especially noteworthy is Ksenija's marimba and piano arrangement of Igor Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*, featured on Vesna Duo's debut album, receiving accolades from renowned figures like Pulitzer Prize winner Tim Page (*The Wall Street Journal*) and Norman Lebrecht (*Slipped Disc*).

Ksenija initiated cultural-exchange projects between the U.S. and Serbia, including the first drumline camp and contemporary percussion workshop in her home country. Her international presence includes hundreds of performances and over 50 masterclasses in Hong Kong, England, Spain, Portugal, Russia, Poland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the United States, and Serbia. As a composer, she draws inspiration from her Slavic and Balkan roots, as seen in her works *Slavdom for Wind Band* and *Epilog* [Epilogue].

Ksenija holds degrees from the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami, Illinois State University, and the Faculty of Music in Belgrade. She is a Marimba One Artist. To learn more, visit www.ksenijakomljenovic.com.