Innovative Flutist

James Brinkmann

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**Short Bio**

James Brinkmann leads a diverse career as a performer, teacher, and researcher. He unites his passion for teaching and performing by creating interactive performances to strengthen the audience's connection with music. From playing in concert halls to jamming in the subways, he has performed throughout North America and presented at National Flute Conventions, University of Toronto Graduate Music Conference, and gave a TEDx Talk. James was on flute faculty and the woodwind department chair at the Merit School of Music in Chicago. An advocate for collaboration, he co-founded Floboe Productions and Silverwood Ensemble. He held the positions in the Northbrook Symphony, Lakeview Orchestra, and has subbed with the New World Symphony. He placed 2nd and 3rd in the National Flute Association Orchestral Excerpts Competition and was a two-time 3rd prize winner in the Donald Peck International Flute Competition. He is currently getting a D.M.A. as a graduate assistant at Michigan State University.

**Long Bio**

James Brinkmann unites his passion for teaching and performing by creating interactive performances to strengthen the audience's connection with music. From playing in concert halls to jamming in the subways, he has performed for and collaborated with communities throughout North America, including the University of Utah, Michigan State University, Broad Museum Art Lab (MI), and Pan Harmonia (NC). He presented at the 2018 and 2019 National Flute Convention, University of Toronto Graduate Music Conference, and gave his TEDx Talk *Collaborative Listening* at TEDx DePaul University. His spontaneous performances in the Chicago subway stations and ideas about audience engagement were featured in the Chicago Tribune in August 2018.

In addition to his interactive performances, he leads a diverse career as a teacher, author, chamber and orchestral musician. James has served on the flute faculty and as the woodwind department chair at the Merit School of Music in Chicago. As a pedagogue, he has published a method book, “The Scale Page,” for advancing beginner and intermediate flutists and has been published in Flute Talk and Pipeline. An advocate for collaboration, he co-founded Floboe Productions with oboist Alli Gessner and Silverwood Ensemble with cellist Sarah Hansen. He held the positions of second flute in the Northbrook Symphony, principal flute in the Lakeview Orchestra where he also was a featured concerto soloist, and has subbed with the New World Symphony. He placed 2nd and 3rd in the National Flute Association Orchestral Excerpts Competition and was a two-time 3rd prize winner in the Donald Peck International Flute Competition. He is finishing his M.M. in flute performance at Michigan State University in May 2020, where he will continue with his D.M.A. He holds a B.M. from DePaul University. His primary teachers include Richard Sherman, Mary Stolper, Lisa Byrnes, and Christina Smith.

**Press**

Chicago Tribune: Classical Music Streetside

https://www.chicagotribune.com/entertainment/ct-ent-james-brinkmann-classical-music-accessibility-20180814-story.html

MSU College of Music: Creating art inspired by music

https://www.music.msu.edu/news/creating-art-inspired-by-music

