

# Mark D'Ambrosio

Bird of Paradise



## Release Date:

Studio Album - October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Live Album – December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Media kit available at: [markdambrosiomusic.com/press](http://markdambrosiomusic.com/press)

## More Information:

[markdambrosiomusic@gmail.com](mailto:markdambrosiomusic@gmail.com)

+19709885277

[facebook.com/markdambrosiomusic](https://facebook.com/markdambrosiomusic)

[instagram.com/brokedrummer](https://instagram.com/brokedrummer)

[youtube.com/markdambrosiomusic](https://youtube.com/markdambrosiomusic)

# Press Release

10/5/20

Longmont, Colorado

**Colorado handpan pioneer Mark D'Ambrosio will release his 1<sup>st</sup> full length album this fall.**

Colorado percussionist, composer, and pioneer of the handpan instrument Mark D'Ambrosio found himself with more open time than usual at the beginning of the 2020 coronavirus pandemic. With shows, festivals, and community events all cancelled the 25-year-old Colorado native turned to the completion of his long-awaited debut album to make the most of the unusual situation. Recorded at Castle Rock's Tenderdyn Arts recording studio the 9-track 45-minute album is an explosion of color and a genre bending collage that explores elements of world, new age, and spoken word all delivered through the canvass of the handpan, D'Ambrosio's primary instrument. The album features the likes of New York based cellist-percussionist Adam Maalouf, and Polish vocalist-flautist Alia Fay. In addition to the studio album D'Ambrosio plans to release an 8-track live album recorded in Rangely, Colorado's world-famous Tank Center for Sonic Arts. Aptly named, the "Tank" is a MASSIVE 60-foot-tall steel structure once used to store water originally constructed circa 1940. In 2013 the Tank was purchased and renovated into a recording studio which has seen artists from around the globe since. The Tank is one of the world's most fascinating acoustic spaces. Inside, sounds can reverberate for up to 45 seconds, with the sound of the handpan in particular being truly ethereal. Eight high-definition videos created by Colorado film maker Nathan Shields will accompany the live album and will be released weekly leading to the full release of the live album on Christmas day, 2020.

**"I've been listening to this album by Mark D'Ambrosio on repeat the last couple weeks and I've gotta say, it's a game changer! With each passing year, Handpan music keeps getting better and better and this full-length album from Mark is no exception! Mark has definitely set the bar higher with this album, with excellent songwriting, production, and heartfelt creativity."**

**– Jeremy Arndt (Electronic music artist and handpan musician)**

## Artist Profile



Mark D'Ambrosio is an American percussionist, composer, educator, and musical artist recognized for his bold and daring performances, expressive compositions, and innovative approaches in education. As a soloist and educator Mark has performed and taught throughout 12 countries in the Americas, Europe, and Asia. He has made appearances at some of the world's most prestigious institutions including the Sibelius Academy, Norwegian Academy of Music, and the Royal Danish Academy of Music. He is widely regarded as one of today's foremost innovators of the handpan instrument through both educational methodology and pushing the boundaries of the instrument's sonic possibilities. As a performer Mark has collaborated extensively across genres with the likes of rappers Andy Bowen and Antonio Venomous, handpan artist Dan Mulqueen, percussionist Adam Maalouf, and pianist Lara Downes. As a composer Mark specializes in radical approaches in contemporary mediums and has written solo, duo, and chamber music with critical acclaim. Most notably he is one of the first and only composers to bring the modern handpan instrument into established musical settings. As a writer Mark is the author of the "Hal Leonard Handpan Method" the first ever handpan method book published in the United States and the creator of the first formalized system of handpan tablature notation. Devoted to the growth and development of the handpan artform Mark helped found the "Steel Mountain Handpan Gathering" in 2017 and today leads the organization as the President of Colorado Handpan Productions, LLC. Steel Mountain Handpan Gathering, CHP's annual event, attracts hundreds of handpan enthusiasts each year from across the world and has brought such artists as Jeremy

Nattagh, Peter Levitov, Mumi, Phillippe Gagne, and David Charrier to the Colorado stage. Mark has studied with some of the worlds leading percussionists and musicians including Darin Kamstra, Lynn Vartan, and Tim Palmer and Jason Huxtable of Maraca 2. Mark holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in percussion performance from Colorado Mesa University.

## **Credits**

Mark D'Ambrosio – Bird of Paradise

©2020 Mark D'Ambrosio Music LLC

Release Date:

Studio Album - October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Live Album – December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Mark D'Ambrosio – handpan, percussion

Adam Maalouf – cello

Alia Fay – vocals, flutes

David D'Ambrosio – guitar, banjo, dulcimer

Recorded at Tenderdyn Arts

Mixed and mastered by Tad Michael Wheeler

Artwork by Ward Jene Stroud