

## Expanded Bio for Kevin Whisman

Kevin began playing the drums when he was 10 years old. In the 3rd grade, he was asked to play a drum solo as the "Little Drummer Boy" for the 6th grade Christmas Pageant. The excitement of performing live was thrilling and by age 14 he began playing professionally with bands in night clubs.

In his junior year of high school, he decided to make drumming a career and began to seriously study his instrument. He was recruited to perform with the St. Mary's Jazz Ensemble at St. Mary's College of Maryland. During a performance at the Wichita Kansas Jazz Festival, Kevin was awarded a certificate for "Outstanding Musicianship" by the legendary jazz great, Louie Bellson (drummer for Duke Ellington and Ella Fitzgerald).

After leaving St. Mary's College in 1978, Kevin moved to Annapolis, MD. Here he began to work as a musician playing with local and regional bands touring the U.S. and Europe.

An unintended consequence from many hours of dedication to his instrument, Kevin began to have spiritual insights and awaken to a higher level of spiritual consciousness.

Today Kevin explores the relationship between African poly rhythms and American jazz. He has developed a concept whereby he creates and performs compositions that are purposefully vague in outline and structure. In that the composition is vague, for musical guidance he strives to discern his ego voice from his spiritual voice. He understands the ego offers a disruptive flow of ideas and criticizes musical choices. He seeks and hears a voice which guides his moment by moment choices in an unbroken musical flow. This spiritual voice navigates him through the vague composition in beautiful way – musically.

Learning how to strike and release the vibration of the drum and understanding how this is done provides a window into the creative spiritual process of guidance which can be used in creating our lives.

Kevin suggests that in the process of constructing our lives everyday, we're metaphorically playing our own instrument. We're improvising - making choices about the kinds of vibrations we use to navigate through our self-created life

compositions. We each create vibrations that engage and have an effect upon our chosen life purposes - work, family, friends and self exploration.