

Cassius Goens III, Assistant Professor of Music (Jazz Drums) at Ball State University, is a highly sought-after musician, clinician, and educator in the greater Indianapolis area as well as across the Midwest. At Ball State, Goens teaches individual lessons in applied jazz drum set to undergraduate and graduate major and non-major percussion students, facilitates a Perspectives of Jazz course, and coaches jazz performing ensembles.

As a performer, Goens is an active member of the Scott Routenberg Trio, which recently released their debut album *Every End is a Beginning* on Summit Records and have been featured at such notable venues as The Green Mill (Chicago), The Velvet Note (Atlanta), The Jazz Kitchen (Indianapolis) and the 2015, 2016 and 2017 Indy Jazz Fest. Goens also performs all original compositions throughout the Midwest with his jazz quintet Groove Theory, and has appeared at Andy's Jazz Club (Chicago) and main stage at the 2012 Iowa City Jazz Fest.

Goens has an extensive performance history with several groups including The Glenn Miller Orchestra, The Ball State University Jazz Faculty Ensemble, Kool's Bazaar, Premium Blend, Cory Hill, The Ryan Taylor Quartet, The Cohen/Rutkowski Project, The Naptown Guitar Syndicate and the Steve Grismore Quartet. Goens also serves as the house drummer on Sunday evenings at the legendary Chatterbox Jazz Club, a staple in the Indianapolis music scene. Goens' performance ventures have taken him across the United States and Europe where he performed at the Montreux, Vienne, and Purugia Jazz Festivals. In 2011, he performed throughout Brazil as part of the Johnson County Landmark Jazz Ensemble and returned to Brazil in 2012 to tour with Brazilian guitarist/singer/songwriter Ricardo Coen. Goens has also shared the stage with world renowned jazz artists Chuck Finley, Buddy DeFranco, Andy Martin, Marcus Printup, Karyn Allison, Don Aliquo, Wayne Bergeron, Dennis DiBlasio, Ted Nash, Michael Davis, Matt Harris, Rodrigo Ursaia, Jimmy Greene, Andy Milne, Phil Ranelin, Howard Levy, Tony Monaco, Walter Smith III and Slide Hampton.

To date, Goens has appeared on 17 professional recordings, including an independent release of his own, *Transition*, which features his original compositions and has been hailed as "a pleasure trip that does not disappoint, especially for those who enjoy navigating the surface between classic and modern jazz genres" (Jazz Line News Reviews, June 2012). Goens is known for his dynamic grooves, tasteful solos, and rhythmic intensity as well as his diverse musical background and ability to perform accurately and artfully in many different genres.

Cassius Goens III holds degrees from Ball State University (BGS, Music Emphasis) and the University of Iowa (MA, Jazz Studies), where he studied with James Dreier. As a member of the Percussive Arts Society, Goens serves on the PAS Diversity Committee, and he belongs to The American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP). Cassius is an educator, artist, and endorser for Sakae Drums and Remo Drumheads.