

## Tom Hurst Biography:

*INFINITY Percussion co-founder Tom Hurst is a drum set artist who has toured behind a number of Nashville recording artists including: Shelly Fairchild, Amy Dalley, Jedd Hughes, Ronna Reeves, Greg Hannah, Jimmy Yeary, Chuck Wicks, Zane, and Trent Tomlinson while opening for artists such as Rascal Flatts, Toby Keith, Dierks Bentley, The Roots, Trace Adkins, John Scofield, Parliament Funkadelic amongst others. Tom is currently the drummer in American Idol alumni Bucky Covington's band and can be seen on the 2008 Dierks Bentley arena tour and 2009 ABC television feature "CMA Fest: Country's Night To Shine". In addition to his Nashville based work, Tom has been a long-time recording & performing percussionist and substitute drummer for nationally known recording artist: Sister Hazel. He recently completed recording of percussion for another of their albums (having appeared on "Chasing Daylight" previously) their upcoming 2010 release. Tom has made numerous other television appearances including Direct TV's national broadcast of the 2007 "Country in the Hills", Great American Country's Live At the Ryman, and Country Music Television's Grand Ole Opry Live.*

*Tom's performance resume also includes a stint as the original drummer for The Backstreet Boys, and as a band member in RCA Recording Artists, House of Dreams, along with touring the United States, and abroad with a number of recognized college and night club acts including: San Francisco's, What It Is, and Las Vegas based Isis. Tom was also a part of the mid-nineties San Francisco Bay Area jazz-funk scene that spawned such artists as Charlie Hunter, Joshua Redman, Alphabet Soup, Will Bernard, and Benny Green. During his time in the Bay Area, Tom worked with the lead singer for Fishbone (Angelo Moore), along with the Trumpet Player for No Doubt, and long-time, Shrapnel Recording Artist: Michael Lee Ferkins.*

*In addition to his live performance activities, Tom has recorded over 30 albums for various regional and national acts. including appearances on Sister Hazel's "Chasing Daylight", Fleewood Mac's "Tribute", and Sister Hazel member: Andrew Copeland's solo release. He has worked for many well-known producers (Keith Olsen, Stan Lynch, Ronnie Cates, Justin Niebank, John Kurzwig) in a multitude of genres from jazz/blues, funk and folk, to contemporary Christian, and modern rock. More recently, Tom has begun to record in the Nashville demo scene with many of the top call session musicians that city has to offer, as well as participating as a one third of a collaborative original modern jazz/fusion/instrumental rock trio: "The Power Triplets" supporting their first album "Ta Da!" available on iTunes and CD Baby.*

*One constant in Tom's performance life has been his tenure, in varying capacities, as a Disney musician, performing in a number of different ensembles and settings for over 20 years at the Walt Disney World theme parks in Orlando Florida. Currently, Tom is a drum set substitute for several Disney holiday shows including Epcot's Candle Light Processional where he fills in for renowned jazz drummer: Danny Gottlieb, and Magic Kingdom's "Mickey's Twas the Night Before Christmas" show again subbing for a legend in Eddie Metz. Along with these duties, Tom has remained a substitute for Disney's Animal Kingdom ensemble, "Village Beatniks" led by Vic Firth Marching Education Artist, Rich Viano. Tom has performed in speaking/front man rolls as well as on zen drum with this five man drum ensemble since 2004. Along with Disney, Tom has done an extended jazz trio stint in Tokyo Japan, as well as having worked as a show drummer on American Hawaii Cruise Line's SS Independence out*

*of Honolulu.*

*A University of Florida Graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Music (Ethnomusicology), and initially a Jazz Performance major at the University of North Florida, Tom has performed stints as big band drummer for the acclaimed jazz program at the University of North Florida, with what was formerly known as the "1:30" Big Band now more commonly referred to as "Jazz Ensemble One" , as well as being a guest recording artist on recent University of Florida jazz band projects. With a background that is a combination of Drum Set Performance, Rudimental Performance, and Instruction, as well as Orchestral Percussion Education, and World Percussion involvement, Tom has an eclectic mix of activities which require that he split time between Nashville, Tennessee, Gainesville Florida, and Orlando, Florida.*

*Tom is the Associate Director for Studio Percussion [www.studiopercussion.org](http://www.studiopercussion.org), in Gainesville and spends part of the year (fall/winter) teaching private lessons/classes as well as the occasional clinic for PAS Florida or various school programs and private percussion education studios. Along with his private teaching practice, as mentioned previously, Tom is the co-founder and Program Coordinator for Vic Firth/REMO/Zildjian endorsee, WGI Independent drumline: 2009 FFCC Gold Medalist, INFINITY Percussion which is in it's third year of participation in WGI World Classification. Tom's association with drumline goes back to his time both marching and instructing in DCI: as a snare drummer with Florida Wave, and Suncoast Sound, and as an instructor with Magic of Orlando, and The Boston Crusaders. Tom was also the triple base drummer, as a member of Disney's Future Corps, and recorded the CD: "The Future of Corps". At present, Tom is a Florida Band Masters Solo & Ensemble Percussion judge. He has been the percussion coordinator for numerous Florida and Georgia based high schools and middle schools throughout his twenty year music career most notably: Gainesville High School (under legendary director Martha Starke in the late eighties), Loundes County (in conjunction with John Campese and Rich Viano early nineties), and Buchholz High School for eight years (under Sudler Award winner Paula Thornton, and Vicki Nolan).*

*Along with his education and performance work, Tom is the Guitar Center/Sam Ash Product Specialist for Southeastern based music manufacturer rep firm: Ron Tunks Sales. Tom is the firms drum specialist/product clinician, and assists the Rep firms seven regional reps with a number of their accounts. Other musically related business ventures include his recent partnership/establishment of a Florida based franchise for Charlotte, North Carolina based instrument rental firm: Backline Pro, [www.backlinepro.com](http://www.backlinepro.com). Tom is also involved in the Convention/Business Production Entertainment sector as both a performer, and partner in INFINITY Entertainment based in Orlando, Florida.*