

## **Kushal Boggavarapu's Music Composition and Performance Portfolio** **(A quick preview of my recorded talents)**

**URL I - <https://docdro.id/4s4GwdZ>**

**My research paper about “Technology’s Effect Music and an Investigation on how Music Theory Boosts Musical Performance.”**

---

[URL II and URL III were recorded with Behringer C-2 (pair of condenser mics I use for recording marimba) and a Focusrite Scarlett 2i4 with XLR Cables to hook up to my laptop.]

**URL II - Original Marimba Composition - Stuck Within -**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xmydqs9x-4c>**

(Recorded at Schwartz Center of Performing Arts in Emory University)

I had this bizarre dream two weeks ago; I was wandering in the night sky, quietly watching the stars when suddenly, a faint melody was playing in the background. It was a straightforward melody, but it sounded strangely familiar. I am not sure whether this is an original composition or whether an existing theme inspired it—strange things can happen in your dreams. The song repeated itself endlessly, and I danced in the sky until I eventually vanished and then finally woke up.

I immediately went to the marimba and tried to reproduce the melody as well as I could before I completely forgot it. I could only write down fragments from the original melody, and after 3 hours (and a lot of experimenting), I finally composed the sheet music on Ableton Live.

**URL III - “Odessa” by M. Lorrick, Marimba Solo**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5lp4elhUiwA>**

(Recorded at Schwartz Center of Performing Arts in Emory University)

Wow! Odessa was a tough piece to learn!

Odessa is an energetic, vibrant marimba solo written in a manner that fits exceptionally well in my hands. This challenging performance is not only fun for the audience but also focuses on my technique and endurance.

**URL IV - Polka from “The Golden Age”, Xylophone Excerpt**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F5lz7e1Xl64>**

(Recorded at Schwartz Center of Performing Arts in Emory University)

## **Why do I love music theory?**

Music theory allows us to understand the structure of music. Throughout my experience of investigating music theory, I learned that music theory is like a map, it is not that interesting if you have never visited the city before. Theory has given me a lens into the lives of how our historic composers use to create their music. Developing melodies off of composers in the past and with the guidance of Professor Scott Pollard, I started to compose various marimba songs. Initially, they did not turn out well, but after multiple attempts, I was able to create a decent song that I thought would receive some recognition. However, all I received was negative feedback and remarks about how I should quit learning music. Bach and Rachmaninoff inspired my positive "glass-half-full" perspective that motivates me to persevere when people offer me advice to stop composing music. Yet, I see that we, as people, have become accustomed to defining success or failure solely based on the end result. It is the optimist in me who is challenging the world's perception of failure through writing more research ideas on music theory and composing more joyful, entertaining music. My experiences as a musician embody who I truly am and intend to be. Without even one of these attributes, this story would not be mine. As I end with these words, my pen shall now part from this musical childhood onto a new score: the next chapter of my life.

**If you would like to learn much more about my musical history, my performance, or my exciting fun-filled life, please take a quick look at my website, [kushalbogga.com](http://kushalbogga.com), and go to the "Music Performances" tab.**