

## COLLOQUIA ARTIUM – Issue Nr.1 / 2025

**Article:** THE 90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF MITCHELL PETERS' BIRTH – A REMARKABLE FIGURE IN THE FIELD OF PERCUSSION / **ANIVERSAREA A 90 DE ANI DE LA NAȘTEREA LUI MITCHELL PETERS – PERSONALITATE MARCANTĂ ÎN DOMENIUL PERCUȚIEI**

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**Abstract:** The article marks the 90th anniversary of the birth of Mitchell Peters, one of the most prominent figures in 20th- and early 21st-century percussion. Peters was a complete musician: a virtuoso performer, a respected educator, and a prolific composer. He served as principal timpanist of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and collaborated with world-renowned conductors such as Leonard Bernstein, Zubin Mehta, and Pierre Boulez. Beyond his impressive performance career, his contribution to music education is of lasting importance. He taught at prestigious institutions like the University of Southern California (USC) and the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), where he trained and inspired generations of percussionists. To support his students, he wrote and published a wide range of study materials and pedagogical works that have become international standards—among the most well-known are *Yellow After the Rain*, *Snare Drum Studies*, and *Developing Dexterity*. Through his innovative approach, Peters expanded percussion technique and emphasized musical expressiveness in a clear and accessible way. He promoted both traditional percussion repertoire and modern techniques, significantly contributing to the professionalization of the field and the development of a solid educational foundation for percussionists worldwide. Mitchell Peters remains a cornerstone of percussion music—not only for his performance excellence but especially for his educational legacy, which continues to shape and inspire musicians around the globe.

**Keywords:** percussion, innovation, teaching, composition, instrumental technique.