

= Jimmy Chamberlin =

James Joseph " Jimmy " Chamberlin (born June 10 , 1964) is an American drummer and record producer . He is best known as the drummer for the alternative rock band The Smashing Pumpkins . Following the 2000 breakup of the band , Chamberlin joined Pumpkins frontman Billy Corgan in the supergroup Zwan and also formed his own group , the Jimmy Chamberlin Complex . In 2005 , Chamberlin joined Corgan in reforming The Smashing Pumpkins ; he eventually left the group in March 2009 , though he would return again in 2015 for a summer tour . He performed in the group Skysaw until 2012 . He is currently active under the Jimmy Chamberlin Complex name . In addition to his current work as CEO , Chamberlin has joined Chicago jazz saxophonist Frank Catalano for a string of 2013 ? 15 performances in the Chicago area . An EP by Catalano and Chamberlin Love Supreme Collective - EP was released on the 29th of July 2014 .

Chamberlin , who originally trained as a jazz drummer , cites jazz musicians Benny Goodman , Duke Ellington , Gene Krupa , and Buddy Rich , as well as rock drummers Keith Moon , Ian Paice , and John Bonham as major influences on his technique . While he is known as " one of the most powerful drummers in rock , " he primarily strives for emotionally communicative playing . In 2008 , Gigwise named Chamberlin the 5th best drummer of all time .

= = Biography = =

= = = Early life = = =

Chamberlin was born in Joliet , Illinois , one of six children . His father and his older brother Paul were both active in jazz bands , playing clarinet and drums respectively , and his brother Paul is still an active rock drummer , with a local cover band , Chasing Amy .

Chamberlin began drumming at age 9 . His early instruction included Latin , Brazilian , and big band techniques , but focused on jazz , under the tutelage of future Yanni drummer , Charlie Adams .

Chamberlin left home at age 15 and joined a series of local bands . Although his early music career proved profitable , Chamberlin 's father pressured him into going to college . In 1994 , Chamberlin revealed that he had been estranged from his father for seven years . After three years with the show band JP and the Cats , Chamberlin , wearied by the touring schedule , quit and got a job building custom homes with his brother @-@ in @-@ law . Before long , he joined the Smashing Pumpkins .

= = = The Smashing Pumpkins = = =

The Smashing Pumpkins were looking for a live drummer to open a show at the Metro , a Chicago club . Chamberlin and Billy Corgan met through a mutual friend , and Chamberlin expressed cautious interest , later recalling :

So I went out and saw the band ? Billy , James , and D 'arcy ? playing at Avalon with a drum machine . Man , did they sound horrible ! They were atrocious . But the thing I noticed was that not only were the song structures good , but Billy 's voice had a lot of drive to it , like he was dying to succeed . So I ended up driving from work every Wednesday to rehearse with them .

Corgan had his own concerns :

He was wearing a pink t @-@ shirt , stonewashed jeans , he had a mullet haircut , and he was driving a 280Z , and had yellow drums . We were sort of looking each other in the eye thinking , ' This ain 't gonna happen , this is not the guy . ' [But] he 'd learned all our songs , as only Jimmy can , off the top of his head , and , within one practice , we were ready to play . It was amazing . We just knew right away . He 's that good .

Chamberlin made " tons of cash " as a carpenter , before giving up the job to move to Chicago and devote himself to the band . Chamberlin 's entry quickly pushed the band toward a more powerful , intense sound . The first two Smashing Pumpkins albums , Gish and Siamese Dream , were

performed almost entirely by Corgan and Chamberlin alone .

During this period Chamberlin struggled with substance abuse . During the recording of 1993 's Siamese Dream in Marietta , Georgia , Chamberlin often disappeared for days at a time into the drug underworld of Atlanta , while the rest of the band feared for his life . He later said of his drug addiction that " It 's pretty textbook [...] Guy makes it in rock band , gets very full of himself , starts thinking he 's indestructible , and all of a sudden he destroys himself . "

In the midst of the lengthy world tour supporting 1995 's multi @-@ platinum Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness , Chamberlin 's father died , and his substance abuse hit a fever pitch . Of this period , Chamberlin later said , " I learned that escapism was better than emotion , and that 's where I hid ... It got to the point that I really didn 't care . Life was scary for me . " Prior to shows scheduled July ' 96 at Madison Square Garden in New York City , Chamberlin and touring keyboardist Jonathan Melvoin overdosed on heroin ; Melvoin subsequently died , and Chamberlin was kicked out of the band , ostensibly to protect his health .

In October 1998 , Corgan convened a band meeting in which Chamberlin was reinstated as the group 's drummer , and the band decided to break up after one more album and tour . The band yielded two albums in 2000 , Machina / The Machines of God and the freely distributed Machina II / The Friends & Enemies of Modern Music , before performing a farewell show in Chicago on December 2 , 2000 .

= = = Other projects , 2001 ? 2016 = = =

Chamberlin went on to form Zwan in 2001 with Corgan . Although Chamberlin predicted that " the band 's going to be huge , " Zwan produced only one album , Mary Star of the Sea , before disbanding in 2003 . Chamberlin formed his next project , Jimmy Chamberlin Complex , in 2004 , and released its first studio album , Life Begins Again , in 2005 . Chamberlin stated that , with the Jimmy Chamberlin Complex , " I just wanted to make music and not really be constrained to making a Zwan or a Pumpkins record . " . On the 29th of April 2016 , the Jimmy Chamberlin Complex released a new song " Paranoid " via Jimmy Chamberlin 's Official Twitter account

= = = Skysaw = = =

While giving drum clinics in late 2009 , Chamberlin announced his next project , a band called This . Describing the music as ' progressive , symphonic pop ' he reported that the band , also including multi @-@ instrumentalists Mike Reina and guitarist Anthony Pirog , would record with Roy Thomas Baker in Washington , D.C. in early 2010 .

This released their first album , a six @-@ track release titled Great Civilizations , on November 1 , 2010 as a digital download only , on both Amazon and iTunes . No official release announcement was made even on the band 's official website . Downloads from iTunes and Amazon were removed after there was confusion over the band 's name . The new band name , Skysaw , was officially announced in December 2010 .

In March 2011 it was announced that the Skysaw full @-@ length LP would be released on Dangerbird Records . On June 21 , 2011 , the new , extended 10 song LP Great Civilizations was released . The band subsequently toured with label mates Minus The Bear , performed hometown shows at Chicago 's Metro and the Black Cat in Washington , DC , and performed on the JBTV Television Show in Chicago , IL . Touring members included Boris Skalsky and Paul Wood of New York band Dead Heart Bloom .

On August 23 , 2012 Jimmy announced at a drum clinic that he had left Skysaw .

= = = Corporate ventures = = =

In 2011 , after introductions by then 1871 CEO Kevin Willer , Chamberlin began working with the burgeoning Chicago tech scene as an investor and advisor . Chamberlin 's increased involvement with startups led him to an introduction to LiveOne Inc . ? a leader in digital and streaming

entertainment . Founders Tim and John Ganschow (of Chicago) were presenting their new social platform , CrowdSurfing to an investment group that included Chamberlin . Chamberlin was impressed with the fledgling company and the CrowdSurfing technology and subsequently came on board to support the company both financially and as an advisor . In 2013 Chamberlin became Chief Executive Officer of LiveOne Inc . LiveOne Inc. has since partnered with Yahoo , YouTube , Live Nation , AEG , Vans , Phish , C3 , Budweiser 's Made In America Festival , Umphrey 's McGee , among others .

In November 2014 Chamberlin attended Web Summit , Ireland 's top tech conference . While there , he spoke of his time with the Smashing Pumpkins as well as on the future of Digital Music at the Web Summit Centre Stage with Adrian Grenier , Chris Kaskie , and Brian Morrissey . He pointed to digital as the medium for artists to truly express themselves and create art that connects with their fans : " Artists are looking for a destination ... [and] digital gives them the opportunity to realize some of those destinations and package them in a way that allows them to be creative " .

While there , he also name checked U2 and said their recent iTunes @-@ wide album release " moved the ball forward for everybody . "

= = = Frank Catalano = = =

Chamberlin joined Chicago jazz saxophonist Frank Catalano in 2013 for a number of live performances in the Chicago area . Since then they have continued to play live shows and have released a series of albums together . On July 29 , 2014 , Love Supreme Collective - EP featuring Jimmy Chamberlin , Percy Jones , Chris Poland , and Adam Benjamin was released and quickly became the # 1 selling jazz album on iTunes USA . The follow up album , released April 07th , 2015 called " God 's Gonna Cut You Down " debuted at # 2 on the iTunes Jazz sales chart and was the # 1 charting Instrumental album upon its release in April 2015 . It reached number 4 on the Billboard Jazz charts . On the 27th of May 2016 , a 3rd collaboration between Catalano and Chamberlin was released called " Bye Bye Blackbird " . This record features David Sanborn .

= = = Revival of The Smashing Pumpkins = = =

Billy Corgan announced at an April 2004 solo performance that he and Chamberlin intended to work together again in the future . After appearing on Life Begins Again , Corgan announced plans to " renew and revive " the Pumpkins through a full @-@ page advertisement in his hometown 's newspaper , the Chicago Tribune , on June 21 , 2005 . Chamberlin contacted Corgan to accept , and on February 2 , 2006 , MTV.com reported that he and Corgan had signed a new management deal with the Front Line Management , with a spokesperson confirming they had signed under the name " Smashing Pumpkins " .

Chamberlin and Corgan , without the other original members , decided to record an album alone . They played their first show in Paris on May 22 , 2007 , with three new band members . On July 10 , the new album , Zeitgeist , was released . Over the next year and a half , the band released more recordings and toured extensively .

On March 20 , 2009 the Pumpkins ' website announced that Chamberlin was leaving the band . Chamberlin released a blog stating that he left as he felt that the band would not further his commitment to music .

Chamberlin again joined the band for the 2015 End Times Tour .

Chamberlin remained in the line @-@ up for the subsequent " In Plainsong " Tour in 2016

= = Musical style and influences = =

Chamberlin comes from a jazz background , and he notes jazz musicians Benny Goodman , Duke Ellington , Gene Krupa , and Buddy Rich as influences . He has also been compared to jazz drummer Dennis Chambers for his " quick hands , furious snare rolls , and crackling rimshots . " In general , he is one of the few hard rock drummers to combine a driving backbeat with jazz @-@ like

flourishes . When asked about his influences in 2007 , he responded :

Aside from the obvious ? Keith Moon , John Bonham , Ian Paice ? I would have to say Tony Williams , Elvin Jones , any of the jazz greats ? Gene Krupa , those people . I think , more and more , as I get older , I 've developed my own rock style and I tend to pull more stuff from Elvin Jones and Tony now that I can incorporate it into a rock arena and kind of modernize it .

Other drummers that influenced Chamberlin around the recording of Zeitgeist included Bobby Caldwell of Captain Beyond , Lalo Schiffrin 's Dirty Harry soundtrack , Weather Report , and Return to Forever 's Lenny White .

Chamberlin prefers not to use Pro Tools or click tracks ; He uses the slide technique for double strokes on the bass drum .

Bandmate Billy Corgan has said of Chamberlin , " he 's up there with Bonham , you know , that level of drummer , who has been able to play a variety of music and have his style impact the way people play drums . That 's the hallmark of a great drummer . And , right now , I think , pound for pound , he 's the best drummer in the world . "

= = Equipment = =

On the Smashing Pumpkins album Zeitgeist and subsequent tour , Chamberlin used a Yamaha Maple Custom Absolute kit with 60 (instead of standard 45) degree bearing edges . His kit consisted of two snares (5x12 and the main snare , his 5.5x14 " Signature " model ? Yamaha SD @-@ 2455JC) , six toms (12x14 , 8x10 , 9x13 , and an 8x8 above his floor toms which are 16x16 and 16x18) , a 16x22 bass drum , four crash cymbals (a 15 " thin and three Zildjian A customs ? 15 " , 18 " , and 19 ") , an 8 " splash cymbal , 15 " New Beat hi @-@ hats , a 20 " China High , a 22 " K Constantinople medium ride , and a 22 " riveted swish knocker . He occasionally used a triangle on his kit , mounted above the hi hats . Chamberlin 's drumheads are Remo coated Ambassador on snare @-@ side , clear Emperors on tom batters with clear Ambassadors underneath , with a Powerstroke 3 on the bass drum batter . He uses Zildjian cymbals and Vic Firth 5B sticks . His signature snare drum is popular with other drummers ? Chad Smith has been known to use it as a second snare drum .

On the 6th of April , 2011 , Chamberlin announced that he had switched from long @-@ term drum manufacturer Yamaha to Drum Workshop . He has ordered a custom " prototype " Copper Lacquer Specialty with Chrome Hardware . The Shells are a ply combination of VLT Maple and Mahogany with no reinforcement hoops . The kick drum hoops are Solid Black Lacquer . The sizes are 5x8 , 7x10 , 8x13 , 10x14 rack toms . 14x14 , 16x16 floor toms . 16x22 kick and with a matching 5.5x14 snare and a stainless steel 6.5x14 snare .

As of 2015 , Chamberlin is endorsing Sakae drums . His current set up consists of a 22x16 " bass drum , 13x9 " rack tom , 8x7 " rack tom , 10x8 " rack tom , 14x14 " floor tom and a 16x16 floor tom . His snare is a Sakae maple 14x6 .

= = Discography = =