

## Meet a New Member



***Justine Flynn*** is a multi-talented musician and yogi who grew up in Portland. After getting her undergraduate degree at Juilliard, she lived in Albuquerque, playing horn in various experimental music projects, rock bands, and jazz ensembles, as well as spending two years with the New Mexico Symphony. Later, while getting her Masters degree at Wesleyan University, she was introduced to South Indian classical music and studied the mrdangam (drum). She has lived in environments as diverse as New York City, where she played in the orchestra of Broadway shows, and rural Arizona, where she had close encounters with scorpions, rattlesnakes and tarantulas.

Justine's spiritual practice began in the mid-1990s, with a student of Rudi's, and she soon added an active hatha yoga practice, participating in a yoga teacher training at the Mount Madonna ashram in California in 2000. In 2002, after a personal crisis, she connected with the Zen Center of NYC in Brooklyn, and also the Iyengar Institute in NYC. She moved back to Portland in 2005 to re-establish herself, and since early 2007 has been representing organic farmers from the Hood River area, selling that "gorgeous" fruit all around the country, as well as here in Portland. Her dog Rudy, found at the Humane Society in Santa Fe in 2001 when he was 6 months old, comes to work with her and was named after Rudi!

Justine came to the Movement Center in February and was amazed to discover that she was getting in touch with more Nityananda people. Of her experience at NI she says:

*"I am so happy I have found you, so grateful for the yoga practice and the teachers who are all so different yet all have the root motivation of union with God (call it what you will). This is why I am there! I have attended a few meditations with Swami Chetanananda, Howard, and Sharon, and am still getting connected with this community. I am glad you are here."*