

Todd Green is well grounded in our own musical traditions and can draw parallels between our music and the music of other cultures, as well as introduce us to many new exciting musical concepts. Or to quote him directly: "To help bring down the barriers that divide us by experiencing other cultures through their music." As he demonstrates the instruments he not only relates them geographically and culturally but also shows both differences and similarities as they relate to our Western instruments that the audience is familiar with. That the Chinese Er-Hu, the Indian Sarangi, the Persian Kemenche are all related to our Western violin, but unlike the violin, they are not played nestled under the player's chin but played upright, resting on the seated musician's thigh. Or that the Sarangi player doesn't place the fingers of the left hand on top of the strings like on a violin, but demonstrates how the musician places his fingers directly on the fingerboard and pushes them into the strings from the side at cuticle level. He will also introduce the audience to unusual scales (with quartertones or "notes between the black and white keys on the piano", common in the Middle East and India) and (to our ears unusual) rhythms, such as 5/4, 7/4, 9/8 and 11/8, used in these cultures. Guitar aficionados will enjoy demonstrations of "cool" guitar techniques such as two-handed tapping (where each hand strikes the strings hard enough to sound a note), popularized by Michael Hedges. Regardless of their previous musical experiences, audience members are unlikely to ever view music in exactly the same way as before and will hopefully have their musical, cultural and creative horizons vastly expanded.

If followed by a discussion:

The program will conclude with a discussion moderated by (insert name and title of discussion leader.)