



Greg Herriges & Telluric Currents  
Outreach Programs

## **East Meets West: World Music Unveiled**

This workshop, geared toward all ages, is presented in two formats: 1) for music students, and 2) for general student body. It compares and contrasts the main elements of Eastern and Western music in a historical and cultural context, using both recorded and performed examples to illustrate the differences and commonalities among Indian, East Asian, Middle Eastern and Western traditions. Music students are asked to sing basic melodies and clap strange new rhythms. Greg Herriges explores and asks the questions:

- What purpose does music have in our culture?
- Why do we like the music we like? What makes it beautiful or listenable?
- What role does a musician play in society?
- What is the “correct” way to make music, and why?

Learning that there are many different ways and reasons to create, vastly different but no less important than our own, participants leave with a new understanding and appreciation of the music of the world.

## **World Guitar**

This program is primarily for guitarists, but is beneficial to music students in general. Based on Greg Herriges’s instructional books, *World Guitar* and *Guitar Explorer*, it begins by outlining the basic concepts that differentiate African, Indian, Japanese, Middle Eastern, and other styles from Western traditions. Greg walks students through some of the techniques and traditional tunes of the Middle Eastern oud and saz, the Indian veena and sitar, Andean charango, Chinese pipa, and more—capturing the feel of each tradition with the use of various techniques and tunings.

Herriges's approach emphasizes "getting inside the notes" and understanding how music can be expressive, rhythmic, and complex in ways that don't necessarily rely on Western chord movement and harmony. Students are engaged and involved, acting as timekeepers and percussionists as well as melody players. Participants come away inspired to explore different musical traditions and create new music with those influences.

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