

# MARTHA MOOKE & COMPOSERS AND SCHOOLS IN CONCERT



**Composer Workshop**  
**Classical/Electronics/Experimental**

## Cue Sheet for Teachers



**Recommended for grades 9 - 12 string programs**

### Workshop Description

In this three-period, hands-on workshop called “**The Creative Spirit Unleashed**”, world-renowned performer and improviser Martha Mooke will address methods for developing a creative voice in an encouraging, supporting, and nurturing atmosphere. Students will be guided to experiment with non-traditional instrumental techniques and musical ideas to overcome inhibitions and the fear of making ‘mistakes’, through ensemble and peer-to-peer partnering performance activities. Students will also develop tools to create their own compositions.

### Instructional Goals

- Explore extended techniques on instruments
- Learn to improvise
- Create original compositions and transcribe into notation
- Listen, analyze, and describe music
- Evaluate music performances
- Cultivate teamwork through ensemble playing and peer support on solo performances

### Course Outline

**Period 1:** Introduction of extended techniques. Conceptualize and discuss ideas for creating an original composition through improvisation exercises. Students are assisted in their compositional process from brainstorming to outlining to notating.

**Period 2:** Begins with warm-ups and improvisation exercises. Students form smaller groups of 6 to compose a piece collaboratively, through translating descriptive words into sound ideas and materials.

**Period 3:** Part 1: Students rehearse their original group compositions. Part 2: Performances of original compositions for constructive observations.

### Teaching Artist, Martha Mooke

**Martha Mooke**, composer/electro-acoustic violist, a pioneer of electric five-string viola, transcends musical boundaries by synthesizing classical music training with extended techniques, electronics and improvisation. A Yamaha Artist and leading clinician on electric and contemporary approaches to string playing, she has received awards from ASCAP, Meet the Composer and Arts International.

Mooke is founder/violist of the electro-acoustic Scorchio Quartet. Recording with David Bowie, Philip Glass, Trey Anastasio she has toured internationally with Barbra Streisand, Peter Gabriel, Andrea Bocelli, Star Wars in Concert, and performed with Bon Jovi, Enya, Lou Reed, Iggy Pop, Patti Smith, Tony Bennett, Luciano Pavarotti, Broadway shows and top orchestras.

## POST-WORKSHOP IDEAS

[www.marthamooke.com](http://www.marthamooke.com)

[www.composersandschools.com](http://www.composersandschools.com)

- Create a contrasting composition with the same group.
- Form new groups and observe the change in the collaborative process.
- Meet regularly for more peer constructive observations.