

MARTHA MOOKE & COMPOSERS AND SCHOOLS IN CONCERT



Composer Workshop Classical/Electronics/Experimental

Cue Sheet for Teachers

Recommended for grades 9 - 12 for string programs

Workshop Description

In this three-period, hands-on workshop called “**The Power of Strings**”, high School string players will explore electric string instruments. Experimenting with electronic processing and non-traditional performance techniques will also be integrated to further explore new ways of creating and analyzing sounds. Martha Mooke will kick off the workshop with a concert to demonstrate the techniques, and the working-process behind the art of playing an electric string instrument.

Instructional Goals

- Listen and experience new ways of creating and analyzing sounds
- Perform on electric instruments
- Learn to improvise
- Explore ways to integrate technology in performance practices
- Engage in both solo and ensemble playing
- Understand music in relation to history and culture (Mozart to Lady Gaga)
- Foster imagination and creativity

Course Outline

Period 1: Demo-concert of electric strings and electronic equipment. Reference handout with schematic diagram is distributed. Students play their instruments with electronics. Student will be assigned to research one electric string player on Google or YouTube.

Period 2: Further instructions on playing electric instruments and operating electronics. Additional studies on experimenting with instruments and sounds. Students may be asked to play a string quartet or other pieces they have studied (prepared in advance with their teacher). Discussion/demonstration of “what would Mozart do” if he had electric instruments and electronics in his time?

Period 3: Students play selections of classical and popular music arranged for electric strings by Ms. Mooke integrating electronics processing (i.e. effects foot pedals).



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

- Further research of electric string players and repertoire.
- Continue practice of new and transcribed music.
- Explore the world of electric strings on the internet.
- Start a band!

www.marthamooke.com

www.composersandschools.com