

Distinctive Concert Programs by Timothy Seaman



A program by Timothy Seaman is much more than just a concert: Every selection is introduced in an animated, meaningful context, drawing on Timothy's lifetime

in public speaking and education to support the presentation, so audience members have a vivid **concept** in mind as they listen. (Seaman taught English for 19 years, and now he performs music 250 times a year, giving solo concerts since 1993.)

The **extended-range hammered dulcimer** is Timothy's primary solo instrument, and he plays it in a uniquely dramatic and piano-like manner. He uses techniques he has personally developed to form arrangements with more emotional impact, narrative effect, and variety than hammered dulcimer is typically known for. Timothy also incorporates daring **improvisation** in his playing in such a way that each performance

has a special freshness and spontaneity --- always a new journey.

The music genre is a **vibrant self-styled blend** of Appalachian, Classical, Celtic, and contemporary approaches. Folk music is done quite differently than it's usually heard; and many of Timothy's best pieces are his **new compositions** encompassing many different styles and moods. Audience comments after concerts often express joy, awe, and gratitude for a thrilling experience.

Usually several **other instruments** come into play as well, including flute, bamboo flute, whistle, mountain dulcimer, *a capella* vocals, and psaltery. And the **audience** typically gets involved in a number of ways: question and answer, show of hands, playing along on percussion, singing, being taught how to improvise freely, etc., as well as using their imagination during each piece.

Typically Timothy's carefully crafted concert progresses through a number of intriguing **themes** related to a series of instrumental showpieces. However, he can specifically **focus** programs on particular themes, upon request, or to fit an occasion, such as the following samples:

- ❖ **Sycamore Rapids:** Adventures Out Among the Trees of Virginia's Parks
- ❖ **Tenting on the Old Camp Ground:** Music of the Time of the Civil War (150th Anniversary 2011-2015)
- ❖ **Virginia Wildlife:** Animals!
- ❖ **Profound Joy:** A Christmas Celebration
- ❖ **The Blue Ridge:** Nature & History in Shenandoah National Park & Along the Blue Ridge Parkway
- ❖ **Dulcimers:** The Hammered & Mountain Dulcimers & their Relatives
- ❖ **Cleansing Fountain:** Appalachian Folk Hymn Interpretations
- ❖ **Celtic Aairs:** Great Lyrical Melodies of Scotland, Ireland, & Wales
- ❖ **Colonial Historic Triangle:** Celebrating Jamestown, Williamsburg, & Yorktown, Virginia
- ❖ **Solo Hammered Dulcimer:** Strong and clear, with lots of room for development on the one instrument

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Fifteen distinctive and original instrumental CD recordings celebrating Virginia's Parks, nature, & history, Celtic melodies & Christmas joy --- over 118,000 copies made, plus countless downloads