



MBIRA SOC 2016

This is the first club of its kind here in New Zealand and it was started by Julian in August 2012. Before then there was no opportunity to learn the mbira in an on-going, supportive and structured way.

Types of 'thumb pianos' exist all over Africa, but the Shona mbira is characterized by its highly sophisticated key structure, developed over hundreds of years. Music played on the mbira is polyrhythmic, infectious, calming and has the ability transport the player into a meditative or spiritual realm.

To learn to play the mbira you need a good instrument, regular support, accessible teaching resources and lots of time to practice.

Join MBIRA SOC. and we will provide three of those elements.....you just need to find the time.

Looking to learn a new musical instrument ?

Are you fascinated and captivated by African melodies and rhythms ?

Want to play the coolest instrument on the planet?

Then read on ...



MBIRA SOC.

A club for people wanting to learn the Shona mbira from Zimbabwe.





C MAJOR WESTERN SCALE MBIRAS

The first instruments imported for MBIRA Soc. members have been made by **Jona Wazara**, born in the Mhondoro area, where mbiras have been played for centuries. We now have some other beautiful instruments from **Leonard Chiyanike**, a real master maker. The keys are hammered hundreds of times so they become thin and wide, giving a rich note and overtone. They are soft to the touch and quite easy to play. In addition, the instruments have been tuned so that they are compatible with our western instruments such as piano, guitar, ukulele and marimba. We also learn mbira songs as singing is a vital component of mbira music

MEMBERSHIP FOR 2016

Being a member of MBIRA SOC. will entitle you to:

- ◆ Hire of an mbira to keep at home
- ◆ Attendance at regular group lessons led by Isabelle Lefrancq (1st Saturday of the month) and Julian (3rd Saturday each month)
- ◆ Individual lessons on request
- ◆ Access to mbira scores and recordings
- ◆ Get together with other mbira players
- ◆ Email updates and links to other mbira sites

PRICES

- ◆ 1 Year Membership with mbira hire \$150
- ◆ Bond for mbira (refundable) \$100
- ◆ Yearly fee if you have your own mbira \$40
- ◆ Individual lessons by arrangement (c\$40 per hour)
- ◆ afternoon group lessons led by Julian or Isabelle \$10 per person
- ◆ Recordings and charts via Dropbox FREE

PRICES INCLUDE GST

CONTACT JULIAN

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Contact Isabelle at
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Julian Raphael is director of Community Music Junction and has been an mbira enthusiast and player for the last six years. In 2014 he attended a week-long mbira camp in Bali with tutors Erica Azim and Leonard Chiyanike. This year Julian (together with Isabelle and Sarah) spent two weeks learning mbira in Zimbabwe with 6 different Shona teachers. Working from traditional ceremonial pieces and contemporary music from mbira master Chris Berry, he has developed teaching resources and methods that will enable the complete beginner to make beautiful, satisfying sounds on their instrument in a short time.



Isabelle, Sarah and Julian in Zimbabwe