



Eddie Martin

Playing Harmonica with other instruments

Solo Harp and Percussion

Eddie will share his approach to solo performance using harp playing (with or without vocals) and foot percussion and shakers. Eddie usually uses amplified custom bass drum/suitcase and foot tambourine with hand shaker. He will bring egg shakers for participants to buy or borrow, but do bring your own too.

Rack Playing

Apart from hand cupping techniques you can do anything on a rack harp that hand-held harmonica players can do. So the sky is the limit as to what music you can make with your rack harmonica, from simple chord accompaniments to complex soloing and even duet soloing with your other instrument. From Folk to Blues to Jazz to Singer songwriting, any genre can have a place for rack harmonica playing.

Eddie will introduce players to rack harmonica styles, looking at his own songs and other key stylists. Eddie advises that players adopting rack harp will have to start a new musical journey because only once a stable rack is chosen and bedded-in does the player's full range of technique become reusable. With this in mind, Eddie will demonstrate and explain the pros and cons of different harp rack designs and how to choose the right one for comfort and stability.

Intermediate players will be introduced to the 1st position harmonica style of Jimmy Reed, while advanced players will explore more sophisticated skills for simultaneous soloing on 2 instruments, including accompaniment techniques using rack harp with guitar (or piano) in different positions.

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