

## Move Up To High-Definition Sound!

Ron and our research and development team have brought innovation to sound yet again. How? With the introduction of harmonic filters, unique to *marimba one*.

As Ron says, "You'll get perfect balance on the bass end and perfect projection on the treble end."

The result? "High-Definition Resonators," the next generation. Because the quest for perfect sound never ends.

That's why, after two dozen years of experimenting with acoustics, we at *marimba one* still bring a fresh approach to building the finest concert

instrument--offered to you at competitive prices.

All the resonators and bars are individually customized on the North Coast of California.

To hear the difference, come to the PASIC Exhibition, Booths 300-306.



## Meet *marimba one* Artists At PASIC Nov. 9-12

### Thursday, Nov. 10

- 9 a.m.-10 a.m. Lynn Vartan
- 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Nancy Zeltsman
- 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Rachel Zhang w/Laurent Warnier

### Friday, Nov. 11

- 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Nancy Zeltsman
- 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Matthew Coley w/Ronni Wenzell
- 3 p.m.-4 p.m. Tim Palmer

### Saturday, Nov. 12

- 10 a.m.-11 a.m. Lisa Pegher
- 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Lynn Vartan
- 3 p.m.-4 p.m. Eriko Daimo
- 4 p.m.-5 p.m. Nancy Zeltsman



## Pastels On The Plaza

To show our community spirit, we took part in sidewalk art with Pastels on the Plaza, a perennial event in our college town of Arcata, California, drawing hundreds of sponsored artists. The theme of *marimba one's* pastel is 'Music From The Ground Up,' a surrealistic vision of the marimba resonators and bars. *Artwork by Zach Krenn*

## In This Issue

Samuels on Sound.....	2
Press Clippings.....	2
Brilliant Ivana.....	3
The Finisher.....	3
Comrade Conrado!.....	4
Get Retrofitted.....	4



# Samuels on Sound

From the first time I heard and saw the marimba, I knew that this was my life's calling. I've always had what I felt is the ultimate marimba sound in my head. It is this sound that drives *marimba one* and me to design and build our instruments.

With my team of master tuners, we have been dedicating a significant amount of time to studying the underlying acoustic characteristics of the marimba. This has led us down many interesting roads to discovering how to further refine and evolve them.

A few of our more recent discoveries has been harmonic filters. We are the first and only company to have developed these for marimbas. We take a resonator, analyze its sound spectrum, and engineer a filter to control the harmonic content of the resonator so that it seamlessly matches its neighboring resonators.

It's all about making music instruments more musical.

Another recent innovation is our treble end on our marimbas. We have figured out how to coax out more sound by reengineering the interface between the bars and resonators. This results in a purer and louder sound on the treble end of our instruments.

For the musician, this means that mallet selection becomes easier.

---

## Local Publicity (reprinted from the Arcata Eye Newspaper):

### **Ron Samuels, Mike Thompson an instant hit duo** Marimba One founder wields mallets with C-Span star at world HQ in Arcata

ARCATA – In an escape from political dissonance, Congressman Mike Thompson (D-St. Helena) made a harmonious visit to premier instrument maker Marimba One this month.

"We're proud that our values of innovation and high quality craftsmanship resonate with Congressman Thompson," said Ron Samuels, founder, Marimba One.

Here he learned to use mallets -- to be used to beat rosewood bars on a marimba, rather than opponents. He apparently resonated with Samuels, who found the Democrat in tune with him.

"He sounded focused and articulate," said Samuels, who along with staff gave Thompson a percussive welcome.

Marimba One is a successful business that resounds with the greatest values of California: entrepreneurship, innovation, high-quality craftsmanship, friendliness and a deep ap-

preciation of music.

The Arcata-based manufacturing company employs a team of master craftsmen who build the world's finest concert marimbas, which are exported internationally.

Congressman Thompson lauded the importance of supporting Marimba One's growing business.

Marimba One is an active participant of local community events and associations – member of Humboldt Made, sponsor of WoodFair, and partner with HSU School of Business to name a few.

"We all sing from the same page," Samuels explains.

Congressman Thompson was most curious about the skill required to tune the keyboard and resonators that provide the acoustics of a marimba, and the craftsmanship involved in building the instrument frame.

Samuels and Thompson played together, and got a standing ovation.



Ron Samuels and Congressman Mike Thompson

The internationally recognized marimba soloist--percussionist Ivana Bilic--is passionate about 'getting the marimba out of the niche.'

She insists that the marimba too long has been the stepchild on the concert stage.

'It is important for the marimba to become a more widely known instrument, to reach into the conventional world,' she says.

She believes that her music, as sophisticated as it may be, is accessible to all and that musicians benefit from a shared experience.

To put her words into action, she has chosen to lead her yearly "Ivana Bilic Marimba Week" concurrently with the Samobor Music Festival in Croatia.

It's there, especially, that she encourages an exchange.

'Being among other instruments and mingling with other musicians builds bridges,' explains the *marimba one* artist, who grew up in a family of musicians.

'I found that with a *marimba one* instrument, I feel I can always go further in my quest for the perfect sound.' She adds, 'I love to play percussion and when I first played the marimba, I immediately felt that this is a real concert instrument. The marimba is rich in possibilities of expression.'

Ivana has her signature line of mallets with *marimba one*.

To learn more about Ivana and her music, go to <http://www.marimbaone.com/community/artists/ivana-bilic>



Ivana Bilic playing Marimba One. Ney Rosauro at Ivana Bilic Marimba Week 2011 in Samobor, Croatia.



## The Finisher

The son of a master builder, a carpenter himself of high-end construction in the Napa Valley for 15 years and a studio musician in Berkeley playing anything from old jazz to hip-hop, Mike brings a variety of skills to his task as the Chief Finisher at *marimba one*.

It's a job that requires patience and precision, with 20 steps to sanding--almost all of them by hand.

"I am intimate with every wood part of the marimba," says the lanky northern Californian, who first came to Arcata to visit his girlfriend.

He uses a clear finish and does not artificially color the wood. Careful to match density and color, his aim is to make the grain match so that the entire instrument seems to have come from the same piece of wood.

"I like to think I'm having an impact on the world, that being positive and thoughtful about my job will bring a full and warm richness that you can feel in the instrument and hear when it's played by top musicians," he says.

As for *marimba one*, Mike says there's a good team with no in-shop drama, allowing him to focus--almost to a state of meditation--on 'finishing' his job.

## New Sensation

# Conrado Moya

We welcome our newest Discovery Artist into the *marimba one* family. Conrado Moya, won the First International Marimba Competition last month in Cordoba, Spain. He is 21 years old.

A busy performance schedule has him traveling throughout Europe. We emailed him a few questions.

Of course, the first thing we asked was, why *marimba one*?

“Everything is possible,” he says. “The powerful and deep sound, the shiny and clear color, and the balance of the whole keyboard present a chance to create the best possible communication between the audience and the marimbist.”

How about what it means to him personally? “It was one of the most important moments of my life... The sound of the marimba came into my heart, and I felt at that moment that my life should be connected with this unbelievable instrument.”

Out of curiosity, we also asked him what was his favorite food. “Pasta, of course.” But even food is related to his musical passion. “I need a big quantity of energy to keep up my marimba practice!”

Learn more about Conrado on our artist page at <http://www.marimbaone.com/community/artists/conrado-moya>.



## Get Retrofitted



FLEXIBLE rail pins virtually eliminate the risk of damaging the rail and headboard. These innovative flexible rail pins also help prevent the transfer of sound vibrations to the frame. We've created a special kit if you need to upgrade your frame. All you have to do is contact your local marimba one dealer. See our dealers here.



### Around The World with *marimba one*:

*Left: Beverley Johnston, Canada, a great percussionist, photographed in Canada during a light moment.*

*Right: Hermann Schwander (the tall one!) with, from left, Svet Stoyanov, Katarzyna Mycka, Shoko Sakai and Maria Chlebus. They were at IKMMA in Nuremberg, Germany, this summer.*



follow us  
on facebook

# *marimba one*<sup>®</sup>

Marimba One • PO Box 786 • Arcata CA 95518 • +1(707) 822-9570 • [www.marimbaone.com](http://www.marimbaone.com)