

## REGISTRATION FOR WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS WITH KEN PERLMAN

January 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (*Storm dates: February 3 – 5, 2012*)

Location: Various locations in Montpelier, VT

Hosted by *Woodbury Strings & Susan Reid's Attic*

In collaboration with *Summit School of Traditional Music and Culture*



Ken Perlman is considered "...one of the world's most respected authorities of the clawhammer discipline..." (Acoustica Magazine) "Ken's playing is without peer. The smoothness and clarity of attack is simply magnificent." (Sing Out) "Perlman has done an exquisite job of taking the banjo where no one has gone before." (Bluegrass Unlimited)

Ken Perlman will be visiting Montpelier, Vermont on the weekend of January 27-29, 2012 to present workshops and a concert for adults and children on traditional clawhammer banjo technique.

For more information about Ken Perlman, visit [www.kenperlman.com](http://www.kenperlman.com)

## WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS:

### **Advanced Clawhammer Banjo** Friday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 4 - 5:30 PM: At *Susan Reid's Attic* \$25

Workshop Description: A thorough exploration of theoretical and practical strategies for playing up the neck in clawhammer style. Among topics discussed are taking tunes up an octave using a barre, "closed" chord forms played around the neck, Keith-picking clawhammer style, fretting the fifth string, using melodic fingering forms that incorporate a fretted fifth string, and so on.

### **Intermediate Clawhammer Banjo** Saturday, Jan 28<sup>th</sup> 10 AM - 12:30: At *Susan Reid's Attic* \$35

Workshop Description: This workshop starts with a thorough exploration of Drop-Thumbing & Double Thumbing (drop-thumbing is the clawhammer technique where you use your thumb to play notes on the long strings of the banjo; double thumbing is where the thumb alternates between playing a long string and playing the fifth string). This approach not only gets you on the right track with both of these super-important clawhammer techniques, but it removes all the mystery and misinformation that are so often attached to their use. By the end of this session, you'll be able to drop your thumb to any string at any time, and use your picking finger and thumb to play any combination of strings in any order. Once you've learned these techniques, we'll explore a number of strategies that make using them sound more professional: how to differently deal with situations when drop-thumbed strings are both open, both fretted, or mixed; how to coordinate a run of consecutive drop-thumbs that move up and down the same strings or across the strings; how to play drop-thumbs of uneven time lengths; and how to control the shape, or "phrasing" of a tune by subtly shifting the weight of your right hand between picking finger and thumb during drop-thumb maneuvers, etc. If time permits, we'll also get into some fretting hand issues: fingering strategies and ergonomics, fretted hammer-ons and pull-offs (that is, hammering or pulling from one fret to another on the same string), triplets and ornaments, plus a thorough treatment of "off-string" pull-offs (where you pluck one string and then pull-off another string). Other areas that could be touched on include syncopation, backup, and playing Northern and Celtic tunes clawhammer style.

### **Introductory Clawhammer Banjo** Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 4:30- 6:00 PM: \$25 at *Tulsi Tea Room*

No experienced required. Some banjos may be available for those who need one. Also recommended to intermediate players as a means of improving their right hand attack and attaining a better understanding of the mechanics involved.

### **Prince Edward Island Tunes for All Instrumentalists**

Saturday, Jan 28<sup>th</sup> 2:00 - 4:00 PM At *Summit School for Traditional Music and Dance* \$25

Workshop Description: Prince Edward Island, off the east coast of Canada, has not gotten much press as a hotbed of fiddling, but it is actually home to one of the most active and vibrant living fiddling traditions in North America. It has produced many exquisite unique tunes, not to mention interesting local versions of many tunes that are also played elsewhere. In this workshop, Ken Perlman will teach a selection of "PEI" tunes players of all instruments -- fiddle, banjo, guitar, accordion, mandolin, flute: whatever you happen to have. He will also offer the kind of important background information on about PEI music that makes the tunes come alive. Ken will teach both by ear and standard music notation.

*Checks for this workshop must be made out to 'Summit School.'* While you may include a separate check in this registration if you are attending other workshops or events hosted by Woodbury Strings, it is recommended that you register for this with Summit School if this is the only event you are attending. Please visit [www.summit-school.org](http://www.summit-school.org) to register for this event, or contact Katie Trautz at 802- 917-1186.



# HOUSE CONCERT with Ken Perlman

Saturday, Jan 28<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM: At *Susan Reid's Attic* \$15 (\$12.50 if paid in advance)

Ken Perlman is both a pioneer of the 5-string banjo style known as melodic clawhammer, and a master of fingerstyle guitar. He is considered one of the top clawhammer players in the world, known in particular for his skillful adaptations of Celtic & Down-East fiddle tunes to the style. On guitar, Ken is noted for his sparkling finger-picked renditions of traditional Celtic and Southern tunes.

Ken's melodic approach to clawhammer has transformed the style (also known as "frailing") from an accompaniment to a solo style of banjo playing. Banjo Newsletter declares, "Ken is the undisputed king of the melodic clawhammer banjo style," while Fiddler Magazine calls him "one of America's great melodic clawhammer banjo players." Of Ken's banjo picking, The Glasgow Herald (UK) notes, "he can make his instrument do more or less anything he wants it to."

Ken is an acclaimed teacher of folk-music instrumental skills. He has written some of the most widely respected banjo and guitar instruction books of modern times, he has been on staff at prestigious teaching festivals around the world, and he has also served as Co-Director for several banjo-instructional camps including Northeast Heritage Music Camp held in Johnson, VT every June. Also an active folklorist, Ken has spent over a decade collecting tunes and oral histories from traditional fiddle players on Prince Edward Island (P.E.I.) in eastern Canada. His most recent recordings are *Southern Summits* (with fiddler Alan Jabbour), *Northern Banjo* and *Island Boy*. Ken Perlman's mastery of his instrument has led the Halifax Chronicle Herald to dub him the "Heifetz of the banjo."

## YOUTH BANJO WORKSHOPS (4 - 12 yrs)

All Youth Clawhammer Banjo Workshops take place at *Tulsi Tea Room*, 34 Elm Street on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

Intermediate and Advanced Youth and Teen banjo players (reasonably adept at brush-thumbings and the "bumm-titty" strum) are encouraged to sign up for the advanced workshop on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> or the intermediate workshop on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Schedule below subject to change in order to create optimal peer experiences! Sarah Hotchkiss of *Woodbury Strings* will be co-teaching the youth workshops with Ken Perlman. Youth programs sponsored by *Guitar Sam* of Montpelier.

**Try out a banjo for Youth! (4 – 10 year olds; banjos available!)** 12:00-1:00 PM: \$8 at *Tulsi Tea Room*

Don't own a banjo but want to try one out? We will have banjos available in various sizes for all age youths to try out for the first time. Participants will be given a mini performance by Ken Perlman and then introduced to the basic strumming and chording techniques to get started on clawhammer style banjo. Students will be given a list of area banjo teachers who teach children, in the event that they'd like to continue with banjo lessons following the workshop. Ken's DVD and Method Book will also be available for those who are able to work independently. There is no commitment to continue beyond the workshops. These workshops are being offered for anyone who might be curious!

**Beginning Youth Clawhammer Banjo for 4 – 8 year olds** 1:15-2:15 PM: \$10 at *Tulsi Tea Room*

This workshop is for young banjo players who are already taking banjo lessons and have some experience.

**INTRO Youth Clawhammer Banjo for 9 – 12 year olds (banjos available; 8 year olds depending on size)** 2:45-4:00 PM:

\$10 at *Tulsi Tea Room* No experience required. This will be similar to the Try out a banjo class but will go into a little more depth.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012.** You may register if there is room after 1/20, but there will be a late registration fee of \$2 per workshop added to the cost. In case of a stormy weekend, all events will be rescheduled to the following weekend, February 3 – 5<sup>th</sup>. Contact Sarah Hotchkiss at *Woodbury Strings* to find out about storm cancellations, get more detailed information, and be sure that you are on the Banjo Weekend Elist!

NAME of workshop participant \_\_\_\_\_ (Age if under 18)

Parent or guardian (if signing up for youth workshop): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Advanced Clawhammer Banjo** (\$25, or \$27 if after 1/20/12): \_\_\_\_\_

**Intermediate Clawhammer Banjo** (\$35 or \$37 if after 1/20/12): \_\_\_\_\_

**Introductory Clawhammer Banjo** (\$25 or \$27 if after 1/20/12)

**Prince Edward Island Tunes** (\$25—make checks payable to *Summit School* for this event only) \_\_\_\_\_

**House Concert** (\$12.50 by 1/27/12 or \$15 at door, limited seating) Number in your party: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost Reserved Seats: \_\_\_\_\_

**Try out a Banjo for Youth!** (\$8 or \$10 if after 1/20/12): \_\_\_\_\_

**Beginning Youth Clawhammer Banjo 4 – 8 yrs** (\$10 or \$12 if after 1/20/12): \_\_\_\_\_

**Introductory Youth Clawhammer Banjo 9 – 12 yrs** (\$10 or \$12 if after 1/20/12): \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to *Ken Perlman* and send with this portion of the registration by January 20, 2012 to:

*Woodbury Strings*, 32 East State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602

[woodburystrings@att.net](mailto:woodburystrings@att.net) or visit [www.woodburystrings.com](http://www.woodburystrings.com) or 802-223-8945 X1