

Jeffry Steele performs on the 8-string guitar a program titled "Timeless Melodies from 10 Nations" as part of the Music at Emmanuel lunchtime series, Wed. July 27 at noon, 242 Main St, Eastsound.

The international aspect of this brief program is intended as an expression of solidarity with the global community. Jeffry has been full time on Orcas since 2018, the same year he transitioned from playing the 6-string classical guitar to the 8string. Having purchased the instrument on a whim--seeking to render the harp part to the Faure *Requiem* being performed that year by the Orcas Choral Society--its added range and resonance made it his instrument of choice.

During reclusion in the pandemic, he arranged or composed about 100 pieces for the instrument (viewable at <u>musescore.com/jeffry</u>). Jeffry began his musical career in the Boston area, where he was noted for "playing a mean guitar" by music critic Lloyd Schwartz in the Boston Phoenix. He obtained a Master's in Composition from New England Conservatory and, when transitioning from music education to psychotherapy, obtained a Master's in Counseling at St Martin's University. Jeffry's recordings may be heard at jeffrysteele.bandcamp.com.

Admission to this event is free but donations are accepted for the church's music camp scholarship fund.