JAPANESE SHAMISEN
BY MIKE PENNY

Mike Penny is an award-winning Tsugaru Shamisen performer and composer from Los Angeles, CA. He first studied shamisen from 2004-2005 in Santa Cruz, CA with Kevin Kmetz, and later received the Japan Foundation’s Uchida Fellowship which allowed him to study in Tokyo with the highly respected Tsugaru shamisen sensei Fukushi Toyoaki in 2007-2008. Penny has given hundreds of public performances and workshops throughout Japan and the US, both as a solo artist as well as a member of various ensembles. Through his many performances and viral video performances on YouTube, he has gained a following for his unprecedented style of shamisen playing which combines traditional and extended techniques in a variety of musical contexts including jazz, Balkan folk, Western classical, and popular music in a fusion of both east and west, past and future. Recently, Mike has been active as a studio musician, contributing his shamisen stylings to projects such as Sony PlayStation’s Ghost of Tsushima OST, Netflix’s Samurai Rabbit: The Usagi Chronicles, Blue Eye Samurai, and many other projects.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MikePennyOrchestra
Bandcamp: http://mikepennyorchestra.bandcamp.com/
YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/mikepenny01
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/mikepenny01/

Friday, May 3, 2024
1:30-3:00pm PST

Dolores Huerta -
Philip Vera Cruz Room

Registration Required

Light refreshments will be provided