

BELLS & MOTLEY

Olden Music, Dance, & Storytelling

Participatory Storytelling/Music Performance

***"FIZZ, BOOM, READ!" 2-for-1 Special
Classic Favorite Storytelling *plus*
Olden Instruments that Spark a Reaction!***

"STONE SOUP & THE HURDY GURDY MAN!"

This favorite classic tale has been crafted to spark a reaction by including lots of singing, movement, and active participation for every audience member, from the youngest, to the most old and wise. The story: When a very clever traveler meets a very stingy lady, an extraordinary soup is created from nothing more than the imaginative man's ordinary stone, water, and his wits and imagination. Our version highlights this most valuable clue: There is great joy in sharing, and it is important to always "use your noodle," and your imagination! Young children will love taking part in their favorite storytelling elements: singalongs, patterns, repetition, the wondrous ways of "long ago & far away," and especially, their "Fizz Boom" Chorus!

For a truly unusual musical experience, songs are accompanied by a real live HURDY GURDY built by the artists. This unforgettable historic stringed instrument doubles as a magic pepper grinder in our telling! Look forward to an energetic, meaningful, & interactive tandem storytelling experience sparkling with live music, resonant with historic authenticity, and reactive with abundant participation.



THE HURDY GURDY CHILDREN'S CONCERT: OLDEN INSTRUMENTS SPARK A REACTION

Listen to the Fizz, Boom & Spark of the Bromkas' unique and renowned historic instrument collection, including of course the beguiling hurdy gurdy built by Musician John himself (and used in the artists' telling of the classic 'Stone Soup.') Children delight in the joyous diversity of sounds of these rare instruments of yore. As they explore the sounds and construction of such these instruments, from hurdy gurdy to bagpipes to 'whittle and dub' they will marvel at the wonderful ways human kind has used wood, animal horn, reed, leather, and ingenuity to invent instruments that create such a rainbow of musical sounds. These two complementary programs unite perfectly to appeal to all the senses, for a memorable and meaningful treasure for the eyes, ears, and imagination!



"...As a Children's Librarian, I will add that I too enjoyed the performance very much. The creativity, devotion, and artistic talent of these musician/folk tellers is far above the caliber I have seen anywhere. I would highly recommend Bells & Motley"

-Mary Jo Cohan, Bayport Public Library, Bluepoint, NY

"...Experiencing a Bells & Motley Performance is a rare trip back in time; it is a unique opportunity for today's children to witness and genuinely experience the music and stories of long ago that continue to hold meaning and appeal."

-Jane Minotti, Sand Lake Town Library

Arts Disciplines

Historic /Traditional
Storytelling, Music, Musical
Instruments, Folkways

Audiences & Venues

Schools, Libraries, Festivals,
Concert & Performing Arts
Series, Children's & Family
Storytelling Series

An exceptional audience-
building offering for Classical
Music Concert Series. to bring
new audiences and generations
to a love and appreciation for
historic music and instruments.

Helpful Information

- A versatile program that may be presented **indoors or out.**
- For library audiences, children seated on the floor up close to the performers creates an intimate, inclusive atmosphere that young children appreciate.

Up to 30 children can all have active participatory roles in storytelling activities, plus adults

- We prefer natural acoustics and intimate audiences when possible.

- Program length:**
Storytelling+mini-concert
generally run about one hour.
(Can also be longer or shorter.)

Related Programs

Stone Soup Residency Day:

Renaissance Stone Soup Feast
with soupmaking, costume
making, dancing, and more
(with a look at Renaissance
Feast paintings by 16th c.Artist
Peter Breughel).

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