

## About Us



**T**RIÚIR (sounds like “true-ear”) is a Scottish Gaelic word that means “Three Persons” or “Trinity”. Throughout the nineties, the group appeared as a trio, but now retains two of its founding members *Cedron & N’Shama Sterling*. They continue to appear with guest musicians from time to time.

Cedron & N’Shama have been bringing heart to traditional music since 1978, performing in northern California, Oregon, and Washington. They were highly inspired during their early days by the sounds of the John Renbourn Group, (a Renaissance folk ensemble from England) and in turn, set about building a large repertoire of highly polished arrangements of traditional ballads. This was the beginning of what would later become their trademark sound, marked by dulcet harmonies, tightly interwoven guitar work, and their enormous capacity for musical attunement. Since then, Celtic harp, Irish flute, whistle, recorder, bouzouki (octave mandolin), piano, as well as tar, dumbek, & riqq (Middle Eastern percussion) have been added creating additional rich textures to their collection of traditional Elizabethan ballads, Celtic & Medieval music, progressive folk, and original songs & instrumentals. They currently reside in Seattle.

TRIÚIR released their debut CD *AMBER LANDSCAPE* in September 2000.

# TRIÚIR



*To arrange a house concert in your home,  
or for further information, contact:*

Cedron Sterling

Tel: (206) 368-3700

E-Mail: [Information@HouseConcert.com](mailto:Information@HouseConcert.com)

Web: [www.HouseConcert.com](http://www.HouseConcert.com)

TRIÚIR is also available for bookings at  
coffeehouses, festivals, concert halls, as well as  
weddings and other rituals.

# Hosting a House Concert

*A Guide to Creating a Beautiful  
Evening of Music in your Home*



## TRIÚIR

*(sounds like “true-ear”)*

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Traditional Elizabethan Ballads  
Celtic & Medieval Music  
Progressive Folk  
Original Songs & Instrumentals

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## HOUSE CONCERT:

a formal concert given for a group of people in someone's home. Two hundred years ago, this was a very common vehicle for musical offering, and some of the greatest concerts of the day were shared in the homes of patrons of the arts.

Today, the house concert is resurfacing around the globe as a premiere setting for the enjoyment of live acoustic music. Unlike a concert hall, barriers such as a microphone, sound system, stage, and sometimes impersonal atmosphere are removed. This allows the dynamic of "us and them" and "performing" to be transformed into an experience of musical sharing. An intimate atmosphere where friendship, community, and fine music coexist.



*N'Shama & Cedron 1978*

To assist people in making a decision on whether they would like to host a house concert, we have provided some basic guidelines that we have observed to be a common thread in very successful concerts we have played at over the years. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## Laying the Foundation to Host a House Concert

**PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT:** As the concert host, you will want to offer a space that can accommodate 15 to 30 people. Most hosts do not have seating for this many people, and will often ask guests to bring pillows to sit on the floor. First pick of the couches/chairs can be offered to those who either cannot sit on the floor or who be uncomfortable there. Some hosts opt to rent folding chairs. Concerts can also be held out-of-doors, but this is not our preference. As we love the intimacy that playing without a sound system brings to the house concert.

**RSVP LIST:** Please maintain an RSVP list, and request that people confirm as soon as possible. This way all of us can obtain an accurate assessment of the number of people attending the evening. Concert hosts with a large invitation list should consider a cap for number of people attending, and at some point declare the concert 'sold out' once the confirmations exceed that number.

**SIZE OF GROUP:** Concerts usually average between 20 to 40 people, but should have a minimum of 15, if at all possible. Cancellation of the concert due to low RSVP confirmations are done on a case by case basis by mutual agreement.

**POTLUCK:** Consider having a potluck before or after where people can gather and socialize while sharing a meal together. This makes a wonderful addition to the community atmosphere of the evening. Other options are wine and cheese or dessert and coffee and tea.

**WHO TO INVITE:** Anyone who would love a wonderful evening of music, some snacks or a meal, and time to socialize. Beyond that, what really works great is for the host to be connected to a community of people. The house concert thrives in a community environment, and it adds another dimension of enjoyment when people who already know each other can gather in a different setting. Also, when being connected to one or more communities, drawing up an invite list is easy and fun.

**A SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT CHILDREN:** Although we have had some amazing experiences where young children have been deeply drawn into our music, it is also their nature to want to be restless if sitting too long. Since the house concert environment is small and the atmosphere plays such a crucial role in its success, we strongly recommend that concert hosts use discretion when

inviting parents who will bring young children.

**INVITATIONS:** First of all, we will provide you with an PDF flyer customized for your event. We recommend that you personalize your invitation to your guests by communicating this is a very special event, and that your invitation to them indicates that they are special too. Many of our concert hosts have told us that they have sent flyers in the mail with personalized notes written on them. Others have made a phone call first, and then followed it up with a flyer in the mail or by email. Everyone loves to receive a personal invitation to a very unique and special event!

**DOOR CHARGE:** We request a suggested donation of \$20 at the door, but always advertise the provision that "no music lover will be turned away for lack of funds". This enables people to attend who would not otherwise be able to because of a lack of funds, while still honoring the tremendous quality of our music. We will provide a basket for people to make their donation; it is on the honor system. If the host would like to treat their guests to a concert, we can also be hired for a flat fee of \$350.

**OUR MUSIC:** Our music is a diverse collection of traditional Elizabethan ballads, Celtic & Medieval music, progressive folk, and original compositions. Both of us are vocalists and multi-instrumentalists. With the house concert venue, a container is often created where the beauty of our music transports people into a deep connection with their inner selves. If you are considering hosting a concert for us and have not yet had the opportunity to experience our music, we will be happy to send you a copy of our CD.

**LAYOUT OF THE EVENING:** We have found over the years that the ideal length of time for a house concert to be 75-90 min straight through without a break. This usually leaves people wanting more, yet provides a rich and full musical experience. On the flyer, we will indicate the start and end times of the concert, as well as potluck (if applicable) so that people can make an informed decision to attend, let go of time concerns, and be fully present. This is particularly useful if you are considering hosting a concert on a weeknight or Sunday evening where people have to get up early and go to work the next morning.

