



center for world music
and Related Arts

Ensemble-in-Residence



ZIMBEAT
Zimbabwean Music

Zimbeat is a San Diego-based ensemble that performs the dynamic village music of Zimbabwe, Africa. The music is based on the Shona peoples' traditional instrument, the mbira Dzavadzimu. Consisting of 22 to 28 metal keys mounted on a hardwood soundboard, the mbira Dzavadzimu is played with two thumbs and the right forefinger. Hypnotic interlocking melodies and spirited African rhythms culminate in the captivating and compelling music that is found in traditional and contemporary Zimbabwe. Zimbeat performs as an mbira group, a marimba ensemble, and an afro-pop electric band. The director, Randall Griswold, is a member of the music faculty in the Visual and Performing Arts Department at California State University San Marcos.



Marimbas



Mbira