

****TIMES ARE IN
PACIFIC TIME ZONE**

Positive Grid Presents

Guitar Cloud Symposium's Songwriter Summit

Saturday and Sunday Nov 20/21, 2021



Vicki Genfan

Saturday Orientation 9:00 - 9:40

Vicki Genfan 9:45 - 11:05

**Dressing up Your Song - Creative
Arrangement Concepts**

Your song is pretty much finished. You've got a great idea, cool chord progression, groove, melody, lyrics, and even a bridge!! **Now what?**

Follow me into the laboratory and let's experiment with some fun ways to play around with arrangements. Some of the things we'll fool with are: texture, dynamics, extra beats or measures, intros, outros, changing time signature, switching genre, and more! Check out my arrangement of **Norwegian Wood** to see and hear some of these techniques in play!

Tom Prasada-Rao 11:10 - 12:30

**Song Starters – Fun, in class song
prompts**

Have you ever heard the acronym KISS? Do you know the rules of songwriting? [Hint – there are none] Did you know you can write a hit song in 8 lines or less? In this hour we'll explain, and then we'll try some fun writing exercises and share them with the group. See you then!

12:30-1:00 Lunch Break

Vicki Genfan's body break 1:00 - 1:15

Sara Hickman 1:15 - 2:35

Songwriting with Sara

Where does a song come from? How do you convey what you are trying to say in a song? How do you expand on an idea? Sara will introduce you to concepts on how to capture, organize, and complete songs on your own or in a co-write, so that you can start sharing your finished lyrics and melodies with the world.

Siedah Garrett 2:40 - 3:40

Special Guest Q&A

Sunday 9:00 - 12:00

**Instructor feedback from student
songs played live or
pre recorded plus Q&A
with instructors**

**Saturday only \$225
Sat/Sun \$299**



Sara Hickman

Siedah Garrett



****All classes are
supported with
downloadable
materials**

Tom Prasada-Rao





Siedah Garrett

Our GCS November special guest is Grammy winner Siedah Garrett.

She's a singer and songwriter who has a **ridiculously prolific bio!** She's written songs and performed backing vocals for many recording artists in the music industry, such as **Michael Jackson, The Pointer Sisters, Brand New Heavies, Quincy Jones, Tevin Campbell, Donna Summer, Madonna, Jennifer Hudson** among others. Garrett has been nominated for two **Academy Awards for Best Original Song, and won the Grammy Award for Best Song Written for Visual Media** at the **50th Grammy Awards** for co-writing "Love You I Do" (performed by **Jennifer Hudson**) for the musical film, *Dreamgirls*. Garrett was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by The National R&B Music Society in 2017. She represented America in the opening ceremony of **2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games** singing the song "I Know I Can", co-written by Quincy Jones. Her 2 solo albums are "Kiss Of Life" and "Siedah"



Vicki Genfan

Vicki is the first and only woman ever to win **Guitar Player Magazine's 'Guitar Superstar Competition'**. In addition to being a dazzling instrumentalist, playing her own percussive technique of slap-tap acoustic guitar, she is an award winning singer/songwriter with a distinctive style that pushes boundaries. Vicki has been recognized among the world's greatest guitarists and musicians at festivals such as The International **Montreal Jazz Festival, Germany's Open Strings Guitar Festival, Italy's Soave Guitar Festival**, as well as at venues and Performing Arts Centers across the US and abroad. Drawing from folk, jazz, pop, soul and world music, Vicki is redefining 'singer/songwriter culture.' With a mastery of the acoustic guitar that borders on pure alchemy, audiences are mesmerized by the waves of sound Vicki creates with just two hands and her voice.



Sara Hickman

2010 Official Texas State Musician Sara Hickman has been recording, performing and touring since 1988. Through broad television and radio exposure, massive touring, **over 20 albums, a successful career--- including hosting VH-1, two appearances on the Tonight Show and multiple awards for her songwriting and philanthropy,** Sara Hickman is internationally known for her **Grammy nominated** and award winning pop/folk music. Through her music, Sara has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for a multitude of non-profits from Habitat for Humanity to the Ugandan Fistula Fund, the Hill Country Youth Ranch and many others. She has toured with **Dan Fogelberg and Billy Bragg, and performed/ recorded with Adrian Belew, John Prine, George Burns, Asleep at the Wheel, Robert Earl Keen, Lyle Lovett** and many, many others.



Tom Prasada-Rao

Visually and musically, Tom is the most compelling presence to emerge in the singer-songwriter genre as I've seen in a long time.—Jim Bessman, **Billboard**
A year ago Tom Prasada-Rao wrote **\$20 Bill (for George Floyd)**, of which Peter Blackstock of the Austin American Statesman said: "song of the year probably – I mean this is a song Bob Dylan should cover". It has since been **covered over 200 times** (though not yet by Dylan). **NPR's Jake Blount** calls TPR "a gentle giant on the folk scene since the early nineties" having played venues all over the country, producing records and teaching songwriting including **eight years at UVA's Young Writers' Workshops (where he created the songwriting curriculum)**. Born in Ethiopia, the son of south-Asian immigrants, TPR combines his Indian heritage with a love of R&B in a style that is "as far from boring folk music you can get and still be holding an acoustic guitar" – Free Times, Columbia SC

[Full Biographies and instructor audio samplers HERE](#)