



Southern California Dulcimer Heritage proudly sponsors:

**Intermed./Adv. Mountain Dulcimer Focus Workshop**

**WHO - ROBERT FORCE - Instructor**

**WHAT- SONGS AND TUNES**

**From Robert:** "When I was young I played certain tunes. That changed and changed again. Some tunes stayed old friends, others slipped away. I continued to play in genres. That is what I teach today--how to play in certain forms and styles. I am a songwriter. The tunes that mean the most to me are the ones I've written. Some have found a wider life--people who identify, want to learn and end up owning the song for themselves. This workshop will be part sharing and part teaching what is relevant to players in the process of defining their own style. Come prepared to ask what you want to know. I will come prepared to answer and illustrate in the context of tunes and techniques with songs new and old, leavened with a generous sprinkling of personal tunes." robertforce.com

**WHEN - Sunday, Oct. 2, 2016, 10am - 2pm**

**WHERE - Private home in Downey, CA.** You will be notified of the class location after you register. (Light snacks included.) Spaces are limited so reserve your spot early. Send a check made out to SCDH for \$40 / person. Mail to: SCDH - P.O. Box 5477, Buena Park, CA 90622.

## **Robert Force** Port Townsend, WA

### **Mountain Dulcimer: Festival Workshops, Concert & Focus Workshop**

**Robert Force** has led a public lifetime of nearly 50 years as an artist: an author, singer, songwriter, teacher, producer and performer with the American Appalachian mountain dulcimer. At age 19 it became his muse—his Diogenes lamp for what is true. Through his love affair with the dulcimer came an understanding of what it means to master something. That pursuit opened the doors to friendship, to love, to spirit and to an awareness that begins with being able to look at your life and say, "Oh, I see where that comes from, now."

It also opened the door to education and the sharing of knowledge with others. After 20 "road years" he returned to college and earned a couple of degrees. He's been a teacher, principal, college professor, placement counselor and a university administrator. In a few instances he taught music but for the most part he taught about learning to learn. He is equally proud of his life as an academician as being a musician. Both careers let him touch lives-- sometimes in the immediacy of "now" and sometimes through the profoundness of time.

His 10th grade Latin teacher said he'd give Robert a passing grade if he transferred out at the semester. On his 2<sup>nd</sup> dulcimer, a large, loud, blonde, all-maple behemoth he called, Big Bertha, he used a calligraphy pen to write the words, "Given as Time Allows... A Gratia Dei." This was to remind him that each moment is a gift. It turned out they were good watchwords for his life. Robert has an impressive collection of recordings, publications and performances to his credit. Check these out on [www.robertforce.com](http://www.robertforce.com)