



Mehmet Sanlikol

CEB Faculty Think Tank Project

NEC Role: Full-time faculty member at the Music History & Musicology Department / Director of the Intercultural Institute at NEC

Title of Project: Bimusicality Symposium

Define: To organize a 2-day long symposium with several concerts/workshops featuring bimusical artists along with panels featuring distinguished scholars and ethnomusicologists reading papers addressing various aspects of the subject. Most activities would be worked into the syllabi of the courses I would be teaching.

Discover: I believe that the ultimate solution to defeating all forms of appropriations, exoticisms, orientalism, etc. is for musicians to become fluent in more than one musical tradition/language. While it may be utopic to expect that students can be trained in such ways to achieve fluency in multiple musical traditions, it is possible to understand (and possibly teach) that students can definitely exist on a bimusical spectrum and this could become a possible direction in music education in the future. This symposium will aim to showcase bimusical performers/composers to our students while scholars introduce various aspects of the topic to them.

Dream: A number of students may develop an in-depth awareness of what it really means (and takes) to become fluent in a second musical tradition along with a possible desire toward becoming bimusical. This may then get them to consider where they could get to on the bimusical spectrum within a year or two.

Design: I contacted Provost Benjamin Sosland and had a chance to talk to Felicia Sandler more about the idea.

Derive: Addressing appropriation, exoticism, orientalism, etc.

Delivery: I will collaborate with as many departments and colleagues as possible. I really want to make sure that we get the activities of the symposium into as many syllabi as possible. That way students would actually show up to the events.