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Photo by John Cohen

SACRED HARP SINGING WITH TIM ERIKSEN TRIO AT TOMPKINS CORNERS

On Friday, Sept 15, at 7:30 PM, the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center will present the Tim Eriksen Trio in a return engagement, featuring Sacred Harp Singing and the distinctive

musical innovations of the group. The Trio includes ballads, Appalachian music, instrumentals and vocals. Their music expands on old traditions and moves them into a contemporary statement.

T-Bone Burnett calls Eriksen “one of the best voices in music.”

Tim Eriksen is a great exponent and teacher of Sacred Harp. He is a musician, musicologist, and professor. He is also a powerful performer, and was leader of the punk/folk band “Cordelia’s Dad.” The band has released nine full-length albums, played The Newport Folk Festival, and toured with notable bands Nirvana, Uncle Tupelo, and Weezer. Tim was a consultant and performer in the film, “Cold Mountain,” and led the film to a great session in rural Alabama whose singers eventually performed at the Grammy awards.

The Tim Eriksen Trio will lead a singing session with students at the Putnam Valley High School during the day and then perform in the evening at TCCC.

A few years earlier, Putnam Valley High School students did a program of music from the Civil War, which included Sacred Harp shape-note singing. The students had the actual experience of engaging with early American music.

Sacred Harp Shape Note singing is non-denominational American choral music from the 19th century. This way of singing started in New England and spread through the South. It was communicated through songbooks at community gatherings.

Tompkins Corners Cultural Center is located at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road in Putnam Valley, NY. Suggested donation for the performance is \$15. Seats may be reserved on the TCCC website at tompkinscorners.org/reservations or on the facebook event page at facebook.com/events/118724878789815/. Or call [845 528-7280](tel:8455287280) to reserve a place, or email info@tompkinscorners.org for more information.