

## **Rocky Rhythms**

In the klezmer style, the relationship of the melody to the underlying beat has undergone a process of stiffening in the past 100 years. This class takes students and ensembles through an intense series of drills carefully designed to loosen the bond between the melody and the beat, recovering lost traditions of rhythmic flexibility. Techniques will be shown how to perform in a group in two different tempi, how to shift phrases to the right and left of the beat and how to superimpose complex phrasings over regular ones, before moving on to more complex concepts. Special attention will be placed on using communication between musicians as the source of rhythmic orientation rather than the relentless beat. Players will be amazed to find that their sense of time can be altered according to their focus of attention using musical exercises to achieve a level of virtuosity that eludes analysis, yet maintains coherence on a higher rhythmic level. Recommended for all advanced performers aspiring to ever more subtle levels of playing.