



# ICONEA

## Near and Middle Eastern archeomusicology

All seminars are free of charge and open to the public.

Wednesday 23 October, 17:00-18:30

Room 246, Senate House

**Charles Lucy**

*Pitch, Pi, and Other Musical Paradoxes, or MusicAsEasyAsPi*

Charles Lucy describes how he rediscovered the musical tuning theories of John 'Longitude' Harrison derived from the mathematical constant pi, and developed them into a new system of tuning. His presentation includes slides and musical examples of how this very specific meantone tuning can emulate any musical tuning system, modulate, or transpose, infinitely. The system has been extremely controversial in the ongoing "Tuning Wars", as it presumes that musical harmonics are not restricted to the Just Intonation intervals traditionally calculated from small integer frequency ratios such as  $3/2$ ,  $4/3$ ,  $6/5$ ,  $7/5$ ,  $8/5$ , etc. This system includes a method of scale coding, which can describe and sort a myriad of musical intervals and scales to arrange them in levels of consonance and dissonance.