John's Grimoire

[F., book of magical formulas]; magician's manual

Music is more about responding to sounds than making them. Listen more and play less. Connect with those around you.

Share. Allow yourself to be vulnerable and open your mind's ear.

There are three aspects to every sound: Beginning – Duration – Ending Care for the duration of each note as you would a child, and respect the silence between sounds.

Think in shapes and colors. Affect is derived from phrasing, not rhythms and notes alone.

Be your own conductor and take ownership of the inner pulse.

Eagles have incredible vision and are able to see many things at once from a broad perspective with complete clarity. Chickens have poor vision and can only see what is immediately in front of them. Be an eagle.

Making music is a privilege. Share your joy and appreciation by visibly engaging in the now. Posture is audible. Invest yourself physically, mentally and emotionally.