



**Title:** Singing The Wind's Song  
**Artist:** Paul Zenner

Aeolian Wind Harp - Gourd style, the wind causes the strings to vibrate which causes the harp to sing.

**Artist Biography:**

Retired computer geek re-discovering the wonders of the non-virtual world. Came to Blacksburg way back when (1969) and have never found a reason to leave, in my not so humble opinion the New River Valley is one of the most beautiful places anywhere. Currently making art, music, growing gourds and cementing my reputation as the crazy old man with all the cats living down by the RR tracks in Ellett Valley.

**Contact:** [pdzenner@gmail.com](mailto:pdzenner@gmail.com)

**Website:** Out in the garden and it sparkles in the morning dew.

**Art Statement:**

Aeolian Wind Harp - Gourd style, I saw a picture of one of these in a crafting book and had to try and make one ... and it worked. So I had to make another which is what is on display. For details on the concept you can get a pretty good explanation from Encyclopædia Britannica

<https://www.britannica.com/art/Aeolian-harp>). The sound the harp produces on a windy day is strangely beautiful with a whole lot of physics going on that causes the harp to sing ... which I almost understand, I just thought it looked cool. The gourd I'm using for the sound box is locally grown as is the bamboo for the shaft and the walnut and oak that make up the base. I added a little color to the gourd with alcohol ink stain and dry pigment but the real beauty comes from natural surface of the gourd which I shined up with tung oil. The strings are various weights of fishing line all tuned to the C note. What you are hearing are the harmonics that are created when wind causes the strings to vibrate. Enjoy the winds song.



