Make Your Own Instrument

This is an event for one to three people. You may either play solo, or if a group, all create and play the same type of instrument or have your own three-piece band with each person playing a differ homemade instrument. The rules/constraints are as follows:

1. Build an instrument (or instruments) out of regular household materials. You don’t have to invent a new instrument – but try to be creative and make something interesting.
2. The instruments cannot be made from a kit, or purchased “as is” Each instrument has to be made by the participants from “homemade /common materials” (string, rubber bands, wood pieces, rulers, cardboard boxes, pvc pipes, etc.)
3. Each individual/group will give a brief presentation about the instrument(s) they have constructed that covers the materials used and why you chose them, the process of making the instrument, your thoughts on the final product, and anything else you feel important to share. During this time, judges may ask you questions pertaining to your presentation. Your presentation should be between 1-3 minutes long.
4. You will then perform a song of your choice - either by another artist or your own composition. If you do choose to play an original piece you created, include in your presentation to the judges, information about your composition (title, what is the composition about – what emotion are you trying to convey, what was the inspiration for the song). This portion of the composition should be between 1-5 minutes.
5. Your individual/group presentation on the making of your instrument(s) as well as the playing of the instrument(s) will be scored on a scale of 1-10. The score for your verbal presentation will be based on knowledge demonstrated as to the selection of materials as well as the construction process, the challenges faced and how you overcame them, as well as any other interesting insights, information you include. Your performance will be scored based on the sound quality of your instrument, how well it was able to be played, its degree of complexity (is it able to hit different keys, can the volume be adjusted, are you able to have it produce different sounds, etc.), was a consistent melody/tune recognizable