The Hmong community is one of Providence's most intriguing subcultures, and the music of their homeland is rife with lyricism. AS220's World of Rhode Island Music series continues with Chia Chue Hue and Pa Koua Vang, who play the traditional music of the Hmong. It's sure to be a treat because exotic instruments are seldom played outside of ceremonies.

Secrets await at 8:30 p.m. at 71 Richmond Street, Providence. Call 831-9327.

There's a Klezmer boom going on right now in New York and, to some extent, across the country (right here in town we have Bresler's Klezmer Hotshots, who have an upcoming Stone Soup gig). The Klezmorim, a large ensemble that interprets the Yiddish folk music with fervor and aplomb, have been at the forefront, making sure their music toes the historical line. Their LP, Jazz Babies of the Ukraine (Flying Fish), is irresistible. A subset of that band, the New Klezmer Trio, a clarinet, bass and drums outfit, is out to incorporate more modern ideas into the orthodox style, however. Their work tape proves they know what they're doing: swirling around the traditional melodies are improvisational abstractions of theme after theme. It's exciting stuff, music that goes for the body and the head. Their gig at AS220 comes directly after a date at the Knitting Factory in New York, where a four-night Klezmer Festival recently garnered raves. You want to hear them, yes? Head to 71 Richmond Street, Providence at 7 p.m. Admission is $4; call 831-9327.