

Rendezvous 2017 -- Steve Schneider's Workshops

Novice Workshop

Developing and Practicing Healthy Hammering Habits

It's a good idea to start your hammered dulcimer journey on the right foot (hand, really). By learning and practicing hammering patterns that enable you to play more accurately, expressively, and quickly, you're always reinforcing effective approaches to playing music. Using smart hammering patterns will also speed up your learning of new techniques and repertoire, aid in your ability to memorize and remember music, and just make you a happier and more fulfilled person. We'll explore hammering patterns and practicing with a bunch of exercises and music.

Intermediate Workshop

Map of Your Dulcimer: Finding Your Way Around, Grasping Patterns, and Unlocking Secrets of the Instrument

The more you understand how the hammered dulcimer is organized the easier it is to learn, to play, and to get comfortable. In this workshop we'll explore and discover helpful ways to get around on the instrument while developing familiarity and facility. Toward that end, you'll learn some practical skills using music and exercises that will speed you on our way toward greater fluency and ultimate happiness and success as hammered dulcimer players and musicians.

Intermediate/Advanced Workshop

Bipartisan Hammered Dulcimer Playing—Developing & Practicing Hand Independence for All

It's time to break the dependency your hands have on one another. Just because one hand is playing loud or soft doesn't mean that the other has to do the same. With exercises and some cool music we'll explore ways of developing and practicing hand interdependence so that you can more freely and easily make your melody sing while playing your own accompaniment. Note: Ability to read music (treble clef) would be useful and helpful.

Advanced Workshop

Playing with Intention

The hammered dulcimer is a magical instrument, but it's really easy to destroy much of its magic and meaning by doing too much (or too little) and obscuring what you're trying to say. In this workshop we'll explore ways to play with intention that give you the means to make really effective choices whether you're playing a simple melody, playing intricate and sophisticated music, improvising, or creating complex and compelling arrangements. Note: Ability to read music (treble clef) would be useful and helpful.