

Hammer Dulcimer Rendezvous 2018 – Workshop Information

Stephen Humphries Workshops

Advanced (Two Sessions): *Advanced Rhythm & Rudiments*

This workshop will focus on exercises for developing your rhythmic ability, creativity, independence, and hammer control using time-tested methods from the Percussive Arts Society. Exercises, tunes, and handouts from Stephen's book on this topic will be provided.

Intermediate/Advanced: *Two Hands, One Mind - Hand Interdependence*

This class will explore various ways to play a melody with one hand and an accompaniment pattern with the other while using familiar songs. Exercises and handouts from Stephen's book on this topic will be provided.

Intermediate: *St. Basil's Hymn*

Learn this timeless melody that incorporates hand separation and some beautiful harmonies. We will also learn more about the concept of transposing a melody into different keys. Handouts with music & practice exercises will be provided.

Novice: *Beginning Rhythm & Rudiments*

Find the path of least resistance on your instrument by using some fundamental rhythms, scales, and chords to develop effective hammer motion and practice good technique. We will explore basic rhythmic patterns that will make playing your instrument easier, no matter what style of music you want to play. Handouts from Stephen's book on this topic will be provided.

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Steve Schneider 2018 'Vous Workshop Titles and Descriptions

Advanced: *Choreography of the Hands*

How aware are you of what your hands are doing while you play the hammered dulcimer? The greater your awareness of your hand choreography the easier playing music is. Through learning and playing some diverse music we'll explore the world of conscious and deliberate hand choreography and practice to become more refined, nuanced, accurate, and flexible hammered dulcimer players.

Intermediate/Advanced (Two Sessions): *Playing the Hammered Dulcimer Mindfully*

A purposeful approach to learning music and practicing and playing hammered dulcimer leads to greater knowledge, practical fluency, better memorization, and musical satisfaction. Together we'll learn how to better learn, practice, and play the hammered dulcimer in ways that reinforce our effectiveness as musicians while we become familiar with some pretty interesting music.

Intermediate: *Let's Make Arrangements*

In this workshop we'll look at ways to take any piece of music and create a unique arrangement from it for the hammered dulcimer. Using a systematic approach that focuses on basic features of the music, we'll learn how to create arrangements that make even the simplest music more interesting and our own.

Novice: *Map of your Dulcimer*

Learning 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 your way toward greater fluency and ultimate happiness and success as a hammered dulcimer player and musician.

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Simon Chrisman workshops

Beginner: *Learning Play*

Tunes, technique, ear training, rhythm, theory...bring your most pressing musical questions!

Intermediate/Advanced: *Playing Hammered Dulcimer in an Ensemble*

Explore backup and soloing on the hammered dulcimer in a variety of music ensembles, whether duo, trio, quartet, or more. Get a sampling of different styles and genres of music you can play, including jazz, folk, pop, and bluegrass. Add a new tune to your repertoire and pick up some tips along the way, working both as a group and one-on-one with Simon.

Advanced: *Rhythm games: Polyrythms, groove, and all the little notes*

Explore polyrythms, subdivisions, and rhythmic flexibility, off the instrument and on it, with a focus on using the voice and body (clapping, singing, ect...) to internalize the concepts. Listening for and feeling rhythmic subtleties, getting comfortable becoming part of different rhythms, taking apart your favorite poly rhythms and learning more of them -- these are things we'll get into.

Carolyn Cruso's Workshops

Novice I: *The Geography of the Weird and Wonderful Dulcimer*

Novice II: *Ornaments, Chords, Embellishments and More!*

Int./Adv.:

A Semi-Independent Hand Arrangement for O'Carolan's Si Bheag Si Mhor

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Rick Fogel's Workshops

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED: *ACCOMPANYING UNKNOWN TUNES*

We will study chords, chord progressions, runs between chords, and rhythmic variations to accompany many of the tunes played in the jam sessions this weekend.

BEGINNER: *THREE NOTE TUNES*

We will study chords and chord progressions so that you can begin to play along in the jam sessions this weekend. The easiest possible way to do this would be to only play the root note of a chord and thereby accompany a tune with very few notes.

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Lawrence Huntley Workshops

Beginner Synopsis

Practice Routines For Success and an Irish Polka

In this beginners workshop we will briefly discuss good habits to develop while practicing before learning a fun Irish polka and experimenting with modulating through different key signatures.

Intermediate Synopsis

An Andean folk tune and accompaniment

In this intermediate workshop we will learn a traditional Peruvian pan flute melody and accompaniment part that employs a loping RRL pattern that is fun to play and translates beautifully to the dulcimer.

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Carl Thor's Workshops

INTERMEDIATE: *Thursday Afternoon Warm-Up*

Get reacquainted with your dulcimer, warm up your hammers, open up your ears, and get your mind ready for a weekend of learning with a couple of easy tunes.

NOVICE: *Chord Shapes on the Dulcimer*

An introduction to shapes and positions for chords, and a tune that uses them.

BEGINNER: *Hammered Dulcimer Starter Kit*

Important basic concepts of the dulcimer and a great starter tune.

Matt Olsen Workshop:

BEGINNER: *Keep It Fun and Make It Playful*

Start early with adding rhythm, expressiveness and some mischievous fun to your playing style. We'll avoid getting trapped into thinking "but I'm just a beginner" and boring practice routines with a healthy dose of clapping your hands, stomping your feet and using the fearless "play-along" trick-- never playing more than a few notes at a time. We'll use hillbilly folk tunes, marimba music, children's song games and even some James Brown (aka, The Godfather of Dulcimer) to put good music in your ears, a smile on your face and some dance steps into your hammers.

Mick Doherty's workshop

Advanced: *Tuning for your mode – why it is done around the world!*

We'll play with re-tuning one note to allow us to play a couple Klezmer/Israeli tunes with greater facility. Learn to play in the mode, to play the tune, and improvise!