

about my music training events



Dan Evans

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my classes, workshops and seminars

I teach dulcimer, guitar, voice and performance skills in group classes, workshops and seminars

dulcimer classes ~ generally intermediate level

- Airs in Ionian
- Song Accompaniment in Ionian
- Songs & Airs in Ionian
- The Modal Dulcimer
- Fun in Bagpipe Tuning
- Dulcimer Techniques

guitar classes ~ intermediate level

- An Introduction to Open C Tuning
- Modal Music in Open C Tuning

workshops ~ all levels and styles

- Everyone Can Sing
- Performance Skills

seminars ~ all levels and styles

- Arranging Traditional Material ~ with dulcimer and/or guitar
- The Psychology of Performing ~ talk
- Chanting and Rhythm ~ participatory group session
- The Electro-Acoustic Guitar ~ demonstration

I also lead a presentation skills class called Speaking With Confidence for managers and professionals - details are on the website: www.danevans-present.com

membership of professional bodies

ISM ~ Incorporated Society of Musicians

IFL ~ Institute For Learning

how I teach

in group **classes** I teach specific pieces with reference to TABlature using elegant computer generated notation

I help students to develop a deeper awareness of music and so enrich their enjoyment of playing and listening

classes can either be one-off or a structured series

in **workshops**, students develop their skill and awareness by taking part in exercises

I specialise in developing confidence through reinforcement of existing strengths and I coach through creative blocks using NLP ~ the results are often dramatic, painless and moving

workshops generally take place over a weekend ~ they can also be shorter events of one-day or half-day duration

I use humour in all my training ~ fun is especially important in my workshops

in **seminars** I demonstrate techniques and we discuss ideas ~ seminars tend to be short talks of about 1 - 1.5 hours

I adopt a **holistic approach** to my teaching ~ playing music is more than just the dots on the page and where to put your fingers ~ I engage the head and heart and focus the mind and body

I love teaching and it shows in my enthusiasm and the results

quality principles

I try to give each student, regardless of ability and potential, equal respect - but not necessarily equal time

I try to serve the students needs by leading the group - discipline is only there to facilitate learning - otherwise the mood is focussed but relaxed

I know my boundaries of ability and, if necessary, I declare them and try not to operate beyond them

without being negative, I am sincere and straight-forward with students

I do not impose any preferences of my own - I help students to develop their own style

what you said

workshop organiser comments

"Dan has provided a number of excellent courses here and I have been delighted by the quality and effectiveness of each of them"
Stuart Antrobus, Manager, Leighton Buzzard Theatre

"thank you for running such a successful course - I thought you handled the group with great sensitivity - a first-rate job!"
Valerie Twiss, Education Manager, Maryland College, Woburn

"it was wonderful having you with us this year, Dan. You added so much to both the weekend and the week and were a pleasure to work with. Your talents and experience helped to make this year's KMW such a tremendous success"
Nancy Barker, Kentucky Music Week/Weekend festivals

"Our guests at Chautauqua speak highly of you and love to have you over. You add so much to our event. Some of my staff popped in for your teaching. They were impressed by your professionalism and effectiveness. As always I love having you in for a gig. You're such a fun guy to hang around with."
Maureen Sellers, Dulcimer Chautauqua on the Wabash, Indiana

students' comments

"your classes were wonderful" S.Martin

"the best course I've ever been on" P.Moss

"an excellent learning experience" L.Hubbard

"I have never enjoyed anything so much" J.Mills

"you enabled something amazing and, to me wonderful, to happen" A.Holloway

"I had a really great weekend and I cannot believe what I actually achieved"
G.Reeman

"fabulous tuition from an extremely human spirit" H.Newshole

"a brilliant course - Dan's input was outstanding" P.Booth

where I've taught

USA

Dulcimer Chauquatau on the Wabash, New Harmony, IN
Heartland Dulcimer Festival, Elizabethtown, KY
Kentucky Music Week, Bardstown, KY
Kentucky Music Weekend, Louisville, KY
Mount Dora Dulcimer Players, FL
Music Folk, St Louis, MO
Northeast Dulcimer Symposium, NY
SAMFest (Summer Acoustic Music Festival) Houston, TX

UK

Bideford Arts Centre, Devon
Bideford Folk Club, Devon
Cornwall Folk Festival
Denman College, Marcham, Oxfordshire
Farncombe Estate Adult Learning Centre, Broadway, Worcestershire
Guitar Teacher's Seminar, St.Albans, Hertfordshire
Knuston Hall, Northamptonshire
Lea Manor College Of Further Education, Luton, Bedfordshire
Leighton Buzzard Theatre, Bedfordshire
Maryland College, Woburn, Bedfordshire
Missenden Abbey, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire
Nonsuch Dulcimer Club
Northampton College Arts Centre
Raunds Manor School / Northamptonshire Life Long Learning
Redditch Folk Club, Worcestershire
Peterborough Arts Centre, Cambridgeshire
Wooton Folk Club, Southampton, Hampshire
South Hill Park Arts Centre, Bracknell, Berkshire
South Luton Community College, Bedfordshire
The Stables, Wavendon, Buckinghamshire
Winchester Folk Festival, Hampshire

IRE

Cork Dulcimer Festival
Tullamore Arts Festival, Co Offaly

everyone can sing ~ voice workshop

format

1-day or weekend workshop

style/approach

experiential with guided exercises, opportunities to perform and individual coaching

student level

all levels, from those who believe they are tone deaf to professional singers and advanced voice tutors

description

this enjoyable and highly participatory course is designed to help students find their own voice and to learn how to project it with ease and confidence

participants may be new to singing or even believe that they can't, or they might be established singers of any genre who wish to develop greater confidence and improve their presentation

in a fun and supportive atmosphere, students have the opportunity to experiment and are shown the open-throated calling technique used by most styles of professional singers ~ once learned, this calling sound is powerful, effortless and energizing

by projecting their voice and singing from the heart, students find the real beauty of their song and learn how to move their audience

performance skills workshop

format

1-day or weekend workshop

style/approach

experiential with guided exercises, opportunities to perform and individual coaching

student level

all levels, from those with severe stage-freight to seasoned professional performers

description

this course is designed to help participants to conquer stage fright and put charisma into their performance

it doesn't matter what they perform, this course will help them to present their own material with greater confidence and credibility

in a supportive atmosphere, students learn how to cope effectively with nerves and develop stage-presence

I have carefully researched and developed this process which has been used to successfully coach a very wide variety of performers, including a pop singer who promptly rose to number one in the UK charts

an introduction to open C tuning ~ guitar class

format

1, 2 or 3-hour lessons

style/approach

demonstration & listening

learning chord shapes and songs and airs in open C tuning

learning an entire arrangement with intros, outros & interludes

right & left hand techniques

student level

intermediate ~ advanced players also welcome

description

an introduction to open C tuning ~ students will learn the significant benefits of using this tuning and how to create a rich acoustic sound

what the students learn will help them to develop their own playing style in other tunings and on other material ~ they will also learn how to play with greater expression and feeling

modal music in open C tuning ~ guitar class

format

1, 2 or 3-hour lessons

style/approach

demonstration & listening

learning to play pieces in open C tuning of different modes, typically Dorian and Aeolian

mode theory

learning an entire arrangements with intros, outros & interludes

student level

intermediate ~ advanced players also welcome

description

an introduction modal music and decorative techniques used to recreate authentic-sounding English finger-style and Celtic guitar in open C tuning

through learning specific pieces, students will appreciate the principles of arrangement and the techniques of expression that make the music come to life ~ these can be applied to other material and different tunings

airs in Ionian mode ~ dulcimer class

format

1, 2 or 3-hour lessons

style/approach

demonstration & listening

learning to play English folk songs arranged as airs

right & left hand techniques ~ students are encouraged to play finger-style but plectrum players are welcome also

student level

intermediate ~ advanced players also welcome

description

in this workshop students learn to play beautiful British folk songs arranged as airs

the melody is played on the first string and harmony or bass notes on the middle or third strings, leaving the remaining string as a drone

this style is a half-way house between playing triad chords and playing melody with two drones ~ the effect is delightful and shows off the delicacy of the dulcimer admirably

song accompaniment in the Ionian mode ~ dulcimer class

format

1, 2 or 3-hour lessons

style/approach

demonstration & listening

learning to play accompaniments to English folk songs

learning entire arrangements with intros, outros & interludes

right & left hand techniques ~ students are encouraged to play finger-style but plectrum players are welcome also

student level

intermediate ~ advanced players also welcome

description

students learn to realize the vast harmonic potential of the mountain dulcimer by playing chords, and their inversions, in the Ionian mode as accompaniment to the human voice (or melody instrument)

they are shown how to create highly effective arrangements to some beautiful folk songs from the British Isles

students are shown how to make chord progressions and comprehensive song accompaniments

songs & airs in the Ionian mode ~ dulcimer class

format

1, 2 or 3-hour lessons

style/approach

demonstration & listening

learning to play accompaniments to English folk songs and then to play the same songs as airs

right & left hand techniques ~ students are encouraged to play finger-style but plectrum players are welcome also

student level

intermediate ~ advanced players also welcome

description

this is a combination of the two previous classes where ...

students learn to realize the harmonic potential of the mountain dulcimer by playing chords, and their inversions, in the Ionian mode as accompaniment to the human voice

and they learn to play the same beautiful British folk songs, arranged as airs

the airs can be used as intros, outros and interludes, thus forming a comprehensive arrangement for the song

the modal dulcimer ~ class

format

1, 2 or 3-hour lessons

style/approach

demonstration & listening

learning to play basics of pieces in a variety of modes ~ including Dorian and Aeolian

learning entire arrangements with intros, outros & interludes

right & left hand techniques ~ students are encouraged to play finger-style but plectrum players are welcome also

student level

intermediate ~ advanced players also welcome

description

an introduction to various tuning modes and decorative techniques used to recreate the charm and authentic feel of medieval and Celtic music on the mountain dulcimer

this class demonstrates the immense potential of this delightful instrument and what the students learn will help them to develop their individual style and how to play with greater expression and feeling

through learning specific pieces, students will appreciate the principles of arrangement and the techniques of expression that make the music come to life

fun in bagpipe tuning ~ dulcimer class

format

1, 2 or 3-hour lessons

style/approach

demonstration & listening

learning to play melodies in bagpipe tuning

simple left hand fingering and how to use a plectrum to strum the strings

student level

novice to intermediate ~ but not beginner level

description

easy-going class where students will learn to play melodies from the British Isles in bagpipe tuning with a plectrum

lots of hints and tips and then enjoying the tunes, once learned

dulcimer techniques ~ class

format

1 - 2 hour lesson

style/approach

demonstration & listening

learning how to play hammer-ons, pull-offs, slides, vibrato etc

NB the notation is in Ionian (AAD) but the techniques can be applied in any tuning

student level

intermediate ~ advanced players also welcome

description

a systematic approach to learning expressive techniques on the dulcimer which can be applied to any material

this class will help students to put colour, texture and light & shade into their playing
~ this helps them to develop their playing style

in combination with thoughtful arrangement, these expressive techniques will help students to play with greater feeling and make the music come to life