

Who is the Workshop For?

THIS WORKSHOP IS FOR CREATIVE MUSICIANS

who want to enliven all their music making, and bring joy and imagination into their singing.

It represents a totally new approach to improvisation

and will provide practical and creative techniques for singers of all levels.

In particular it will help: • choir singers and choir leaders • community musicians
• music and singing teachers • music therapists • singers and • music students.

A Bookshop of Resources related to the workshop theme will also be available.

Testimonial

What Tonalis achieves cuts through the inhibitions and prejudices which so negatively affect music making and restores the magic and humanity of real musical experience.

NICHOLAS BANNAN - former Director of 'Music Teaching in Private Practice' at Reading Univ.

Workshop Leader

Michael Deason-Barrow is the director of Tonalis: Centre for the Development of Music where participants experience there is 'more to music than meets the ears'. He regularly teaches improvisation and has a wide background as a performer in free improvisation groups, influenced by the acclaimed improviser Pär Ahlbom. He is recognised for being that rare exponent in music, an expert with a universal attitude. You will find his workshops are dynamic, uplifting and inspirational.

Fees: £80 (for booking by Oct. 1st) **£88** (by Nov. 1st) **£95** (thereafter)

Concessions: £70 for students, OAPs, & the unwaged when booked with evidence by Oct. 15th.

Couples/Partners & Group Bookings (3+): £68/£75/£80 each (dates as above)

Work Scholarship: £60 (Please check availability)

Times: 10am - 6pm Saturday; 10am - 5pm Sunday

Meals: Bring & Share Lunches or Local cafés.

A **Registration Letter** incl. Travel Directions will be sent on Receipt of your Application.

✂ **TONALIS, 4 Castle Farm Close, Leighterton, GLOS, GL8 8UY**

APPLICATION FORM - The Joy of Choral Improvisation

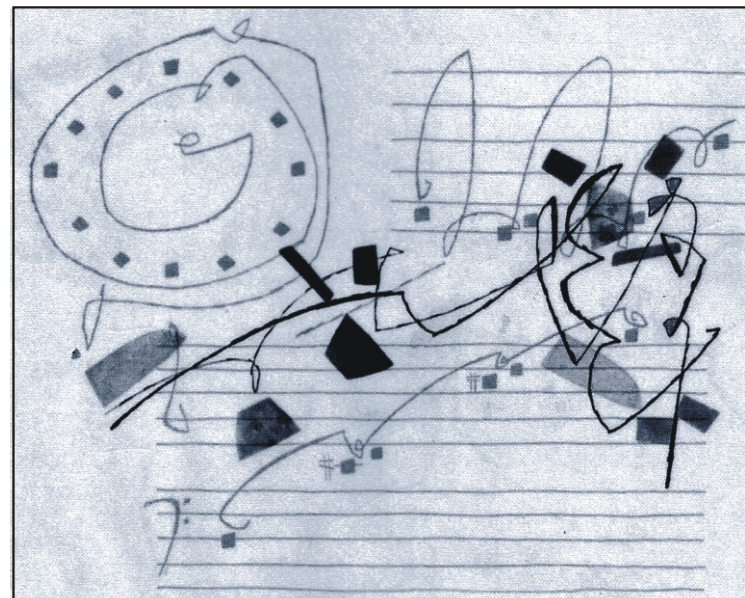
Please complete & send to the above address with your cheque payable to - 'Tonalis'.

Name: _____ email: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Tel: _____

Discover the Joy, Freedom and Creativity of Choral Improvisation



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Bring Music and Singing to Life

Tonalis

Workshop Led by Michael Deason-Barrow

12th - 13th NOVEMBER 2011

VENUE - St. Paul's Church, Islington, LONDON

Enquiries: TEL: 01666-890460 / info@tonalismusic.co.uk

Improvisation

- Brings music to life and helps us to be alive in the music
- Helps us to bring freshness and creativity into music, and to discover the sheer joy of 'playing' music
 - Helps us discover the creator within us in order that music can come directly from inside us.
 - Creates imaginative ways of practising
 - Transforms performance anxiety
 - Represents a different form of musical intelligence
- Invites us to bring INTUITIVE practices into music making and to be alive in the 'PRESENT moment'
- Helps to develop choirs listening, communication and sense of community.

So if you want to:

- **unleash magical qualities in the music you sing**
- **learn how to make music on a more inspirational level**
- **and, explore the gifts of improvisation then This Workshop is for YOU!**

We were all born spontaneous musical improvisers. We even speak of 'PLAYING' music. But as adults, we tend to forget this and become bogged down by inhibitions about creating music. Thus music making is often characterised by a lack of PLAY. All this led Picasso to remark, *"every child is an artist - the problem is how to remain an artist once she grows up"*.

So why do so many musicians let so much creativity evade them - given the amazing possibilities that improvisation offers us? (e.g. Huge numbers of people fervently wish they could improvise, but don't feel confident about creating their own music.)

The answer is, our music education system is lop-sided, because all too often imaginative play with music is neglected in deference to skill acquisition, and in order to sing other people's compositions. This is partly because the dominance of playing music from notation has led improvisation to be undervalued in the development of the musician. Thus, in traditional worlds of choral singing, improvisation isn't the first word that comes to mind.

*So it's time to become more than inheritors of music.
It's Time to Become Discoverers of Music.*

*A key aim of this workshop is therefore to redress this balance
and Get Your Creative Voices Going.*

Creative Imagination in Singing and Choirs

What We'll Do

Michael will explore with you exciting imaginative ways of helping singers and choirs enter into improvisation.

So come and enjoy:

co-creating a stunning array of vocal colours, harmonies, rhythms and textures which lead to multicultural, archetypal and contemporary forms of musicing.

Also explore how to AWAKEN CHOIRS' MUSICAL IMAGINATIONS VIA WARM-UPS with intriguing names (e.g. 'the energy ball', 'tone journey' and 'don't drop the drone'). Just as importantly, discover how you can bring the benefits of spontaneity and soulful expression into voicework so that singing can always be linked to your creative self.

Get Inside the Music

Improvisation is amazing for helping choirs/singers go deeper into the music they are singing. It represents a unique way to develop musicianship and listening skills and will help you to get inside the inner life of the elements of music. Through learning how to improvise on rhythms, melodies, intervals, scales and harmonies, you will find how improvisation can help you enter into composers' imaginations.

Explore different Forms of Improvisation

The workshop will introduce you to many different forms of improvisation, based on:

- **MUSICAL STYLES AND IDIOMS**, e.g. Gospel, Irish Folk, and Medieval Music
- **MUSICAL FRAMEWORKS**, e.g. - Modal Improvisations to Indian Ragas
 - Improvising over Harmonic Sequences from Bach to Blues
 - Co-creating dynamic Rhythmic Jazz-like Grooves.
- **FREE FORMS OF IMPROVISATION AND NEW COMPOSITIONS WHICH CALL FOR IMPROVISATION**. These invite you to explore new pathways in music instead of following familiar fixed forms based on past habits. For instance, improvising in free tonalities offers you the chance to **transform the musical boundaries we sometimes hide behind and experience instead a powerful sense of MUSICAL FREEDOM.**

Explore Improvisation in Different Fields of Music, e.g.

- **COMMUNITY MUSICING** where it can help people enter into 'the space between I and You', via improvisations called 'Sound Swaps', 'Rainforest' and 'The United Nations'
- **THERAPEUTIC MUSIC MAKING** where it can create amazing transformational possibilities
- **SPIRITUAL PRACTICE** where it can put us in touch with intuitive and spiritual sides of ourselves.