


The Mysteries of Music



Wake Up to a New World of Music
Enter into the Mysteries and Archetypes
that Underlie Music

Photo by Marcelo Petraglia

Tonalis

Course Leader: Michael Deason-Barrow

23rd - 28th JULY 2011

VENUE - Tonalis Music Centre, Stroud, GLOS
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**“Most teachers only teach you how to use 1/10th of the elements of music.
IT SHOULD THEN BE CALLED ‘NOTE THEORY’
BECAUSE IT DOESN’T TEACH YOU THE INNER LIFE OF MUSIC.” (V.Wootton)**

Would you like to explore
some of the deep laws and truths that underlie sound and music?

At a time when much of the music that surrounds us is often mundane,
this course will remind you of

**THE MYSTERIES OF VIBRATION, SOUND AND MUSIC,
AND HOW MUSIC CAN TRANSFORM CONSCIOUSNESS.**

Much traditional music teaching today can seem quite disconnected
from the deeper questions of musical meaning that informed it in earlier times
and how the elements of music relate to human consciousness.

This highly practical and imaginative course is for people who want to:

- Participate in a larger musical reality than music theory books speak about
 - Wake up to a new world of music and listen in to its secret powers
 - Enter into the mysteries and archetypes that underlie music and discover startling new insights into the Hidden Face of Music.

It will open doors for you into a richer experience of the Elements of Music
(from scales, intervals, rhythms, and harmonies to textures and timbres, etc.)
via exploring them experientially using exciting new strategies, including:

- Improvisation • Movement • Singing
- Instrumental Playing and • Whole Brain Listening.

What is Music for?

Ask people, ‘what music is for?’, and the responses are usually about expressing feelings, entertainment and pleasure, as well as the way music can link us to our bodies (e.g. via drumming), and to our thinking (e.g. via the so-called Mozart Effect).

But music is too vast to merely be related to human emotions and our physical being. Kepler reminded us of this when he said, “The movement of the heavens is nothing more than unceasing polyphony”, whilst when we listen to Tallis’ transcendent 40-part motet, ‘Spem in Alium’, it brings us face to face with something that enlarges us beyond the limitations of our self and our everyday experience. In fact, the archetypal eternal laws that underlie the universe defy expression in the norms of musical experience.

In the past music was always used to connect people to transpersonal elements. Consequently, our ancestors used specific scales, rhythms and instruments to connect them to spiritual worlds; Gods, Goddesses and Saints were assigned to music; and the wheels of chakras and celtic spirals were linked to the vibrations of more subtle life energies.

In our more secular times, however, such perspectives have largely been ignored.

Yet there is a longing today for music to contact Eternal Reality behind the World of the Senses, which we can witness in the upsurge of interest in:

- Spiritual Musics (from Tibetan Chant and Hildegard of Bingen to Messiaen)
- World Musics and their Different Belief Systems
- The Healing Properties of Sound and Music.

KEY THEMES WE WILL PRACTICALLY EXPLORE

The Inner Life of Tone

This course will explore with you subtle aspects of 'the inner life of tone' and help you shed new light on deep truths connected to VIBRATION, COLOUR and RESONANCE.

To do this we will call on the pioneering research of Jenny and Lauterwasser which demonstrates how vibration calls matter to order. (N.B. Many creation myths speak of how God created the world from sound.)

In addition, you will have the chance to get inside:

- The way the elemental voices of different instrumental materials speak, from different woods and metals (e.g. bronze and iron), to water, stone, reed, wind, skin and gut
- The magic of tone in more primordial forms of music making (from Tibetan Chant to music celebrating nature's soundscapes). These musics you will find exist beyond the categories of individual musical systems.

The Harmonic Series: A Universal Mantra and Jacob's Ladder

We will explore with you the one universal structure that lies beneath the surface differences of today's multiple musical idioms, namely the Harmonic Series. This series of tones - sometimes referred to as 'Nature's Tuning' - acts as the common ground of all music. Every culture perceives this 'universal' archetype, but each one makes its own 'particular' relationship to it through the way it creates individual tunings derived from this source.

To explore the overtones in Jacob's Ladder we will:

i) Play Gongs Tuned to the Harmonic Series

ii) Sing and Play World Musics in Different Tunings

to Inspire Us to Consider Re-tuning Music Making to more Universal Perspectives.

iii) Discover how the Reawakened Awareness of Harmonics in Contemporary Music Marks the Re-establishment of Music in its Eternal and Natural Principles.

To help you experience this more eternal aspect of music, we will also sing a new luminous composition inspired by the 'harmonic series' and accompanied by beautiful bronze gongs in this tuning to William Blake's immortal words, *'To see a World in a Grain of Sand'*.

In Tune or Out of Tune - Natural vs. Man-made Tuning

The course will also investigate why Western musicians created the '**TEMPERED TUNING**' system where each interval is slightly out of tune with nature's laws as embodied in the Harmonic Series. Thus we will compare these two very different tuning systems with you.

Modes, Moods and Melodies & the Stories of the Intervals

Just as a painter creates a specific mood through using particular colours, so each mode/scale uses a combination of certain notes which leads to a particular mood being created.

So come and explore how modes are more than pitch sets: they express different states of being.
(e.g. Modes in traditional musics are often associated with:
different emotions, deities, times of the day, festivals and seasons.)

N.B. This deeper meaning has been lost in today's musical world. So its time to re-discover it.

The Mysteries of Time in Music

- Discover how composers evoke different kinds of time through using different metres and how freer, more eternal rhythms and breath time differ from pulse time.
- Explore how different tuning systems embody different experiences of time and space?

The Human Being as a Symphony of Sound

It is amazing how, in just a short time, music can trigger responses in our heartbeat and our emotions, etc., and how it is capable of influencing every cell in our bodies.

The role of music as a healing force is an ancient one - as the biblical image of David calming Saul with his harp reminds us. This course will therefore investigate with you:

- i) how different intervals can be objectively linked to our physiology, (e.g. the 5th with the lungs, the 3rd with our heart, and the 2nd with our etheric body)
 - ii) how the archetypal elements of music referred to by the ancient Greeks as Rhythmos, Tonos and Harmonia are linked to our Thinking, Feeling and Movement Being.
- TONOS = the form holding structure of Apollo that works with our Thinking
 - RHYTHMOS = the changing Dionysian aspect that works with our Metabolic / Etheric forces
 - HARMONIA = the dialogue between our head and limbs that works with our Heart forces

N.B. There will also be excursions into the following themes:

- **The Mysteries of Listening**
- **The Relation between Music and the 12 Senses**
- **How Music works with our Human Organisation in Space**
(from above to below " within and without " left and right " front and back).

Who is the Course For?

This course is for all those people with real curiosity about the mysteries of music who want to go beyond mere music theory which often fails to reflect the living qualities of music.

We can promise that it will stretch the boundaries of your musical world and change the way you view music in the most profound ways.

Our approach is holistic, strongly practical and utterly professional.

You will find all Tonalis' musicing is creative, uplifting and life enhancing.

It will benefit everyone, from:

- *people who just love listening to music*
- *professional and amateur musicians*
- *music teachers to*
- *music therapists and sound therapists* who want to enter more fully into 'the secrets of the inner life of music' so that they can call on this in their life and work.

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

Testimonial

'Tonalis is watering the roots of music, reviving the mystery and nurturing the sacred which lies behind all inspiring performance. IT IS VITAL WORK!'

JONATHAN HARVEY - Leading Composer and Author of 'In Quest of Spirit'

Contributors

Michael Deason-Barrow (GRSM, ARCM) - Tonalis Director - has always had an intense need to understand the essence of music. This has led him to look at the world of music from wider perspectives and to extend the boundaries of musical understanding. He has built a reputation as a master music teacher and has taught at all levels, from universities and conservatoires, to music therapy, community music and school contexts. You will find he has the gift of making complex and subtle musical questions clear and utterly fascinating.

Lorin Panny - Eurythmist - will help you experience how the whole body can become an instrument of listening. On this course she will introduce you to the new acoustic instruments Tonalis uses, and explore with you 'Nature's Tuning' vs. 'Man-made Tuning'.

Tonalis: Centre for the Development of Music

Tonalis expresses a new concept of wholeness in music and stands at the crossing of different musical pathways. With Tonalis you will find there is always 'more to music' than meets the ear - a depth dimension that leads to a richer experience of music. It offers Trainings, Courses, Workshops, In-service Days and Continuing Professional Development.

Venue

Tonalis Music Centre is housed in the 'Centre for Science and Art' in Stroud (Glos.). Stroud is a lively old mill town situated in the midst of the beautiful Cotswold countryside. Eating out is easy in local cafés which our participants find suit all tastes and budgets.

APPLICATION FORM - The Mysteries of Music

Please complete and send with a non-refundable £40 Deposit/Admin. fee payable to 'Tonalis' at:-

4 Castle Farm Close, Leighterton, Glos. GL8 8UY, England.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____ email: _____

Do you require accommodation? Yes No

(N.B. Own transport may be necessary for these.)

Any Relevant occupational background? _____



Meals: Lunches & Suppers are available at local cafés.

Times: The Course begins at 2:00pm on July 23rd (and includes an evening session)

The Course ends at 1:30pm on July 28th.

A Registration Letter - including Travel Information, Accommodation List, Times, etc. will be sent on receipt of the Application Form and Deposit.

FEES

Tuition Fees: £220 (for booking by May 15th) £235 (by June 20th) £250 (thereafter)

£10 off the above fees for Previous Participants of Tonalis '5-Day+ Courses'

Concessions: £195 for Full-time Students, O.A.P.s & People on Income Support (with evidence) when booked by June 1st.

Work Scholarship Fee: £155 A LIMITED number of Work Scholarships are available to students & the unwaged. (Please check availability & apply with evidence.)

Accommodation: If required we will send you a list of local family hosts and B&Bs. (Local family hosts ask for approx. £20/night, including Breakfast)

N.B. Places are limited so early application is essential.