



Learn to Read Music Fluently

(using inspiring New Methods created by Tonalis)

Go Deeper into the Inner Life of Music
& Develop your Listening Skills

Tonalis

Led by Michael Deason-Barrow

A Modular Part-time Course

12 Days in Single Day or Weekend Modules

VENUE - The Field Centre, Nailsworth, GLOS.
Enquiries: Tel: 01666-890460 / info@tonalismusic.co.uk

Would you love to be able to READ MUSIC
so that you can look at
notated melodies, rhythms and harmonies
and instantly hear, sing and play them?

- ♦ Would you like to make sense of all those mysterious symbols that are used to write music down?
- ♦ Have you ever felt put off by the challenges of music reading because you don't know where to start, (or because the methods you were first taught were not right for you)?

IF THESE QUESTIONS RESONATE WITH YOU -
THEN THIS COURSE IS FOR YOU!

So come and explore how Tonalis can help you
Demystify the Reading of Music Notation
so that by the end of the course
**YOU'LL BE ABLE TO READ MUSIC
WITH EASE AND FLUENCY.**

What you'll find is that this is
THE WAY YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO LEARN TO READ MUSIC.

N.B. A KEY TONALIS BELIEF is that
AURAL LEARNING and MUSIC READING are BOTH IMPORTANT.
Why?

Because used together - Aural and Visual Learning
bring about a HOLISTIC PERCEPTION of MUSIC
and

THEY HARMONISE THE RIGHT & LEFT HEMISPHERES OF OUR BRAIN.
Consequently, this course will teach you HOLISTIC NOTATION processes.

Why Learn to Read Music? What are its Benefits?

It's lovely to hear stories and it's lovely to be able to speak to each other. But it's also wonderful to be able to read and study books oneself. So even storytellers and poets use the written word in their work. Thus we'd find it strange if children were not encouraged to read.

*So why do we not encourage music reading as much,
given that there are very good reasons why music gets written down?*

Learning to Read Music Makes it Possible to:

- learn pieces of music more quickly
- learn all the parts (SATB) in choral music
- analyse and understand how music works
- learn longer compositions (e.g. an oratorio)
- access and participate in all forms of literate music making
- sing a song - or play a piece of music - you've never heard before
- perceive subtle relationships in music that you may not hear aurally
- compose your own music or create more elaborate musical structures (e.g. a fugue) so that you can pass them on to other people to enjoy.

(N.B. This course will also give you new means to Teach Music Reading to others.)

KEY THEMES

> Learn Tonalis' Innovative Ways to Read Music

This course will introduce you to Tonalis' innovative methods and games for helping you to LEARN AND IMPROVE YOUR MUSIC READING.

These include:

🌀 MELODY READING SYSTEMS that use

- a new adaptation of SOL FA (i.e. Do-Re-Mi, etc.) created by M.D-B.
- HAND SIGNS which provide a kinaesthetic connection to the sounds of a scale and help to make aural phenomena and music notation visible, physical and spatial, and
- SHAPE NOTES that show the tone tendencies/qualities of each note in the scale.

🌀 RHYTHM SYLLABLE SYSTEMS that use

- MOVEMENT WORDS (created by Tonalis) & ii) METRIC COUNTING, etc.

Here you will find no dryness or one-sided intellectual methods.

Instead, in the teaching of notation Tonalis continually uses:

🌀 CREATIVITY (e.g. composition and improvisation)

🌀 MOVEMENT (influenced by Dalcroze Eurhythmics)

🌀 NOTATION GAMES (e.g. HopScore, the Hand Staff, Dash-a-Rhythm & many more).

> Learn to Read Melodies, Rhythms and Harmonies

This course will give you the chance to read and understand all the 'elements of music' in a systematic way that will PROGRESSIVELY DEVELOP your music reading module by module.

So come and demystify all those musical symbols and learn how to read:

Pitch - from staves, clefs, recognising tones, semi-tones, intervals and note names, to #s, b's, flats, transpositions, to how to recognise whether it's major, minor, or in a mode, and what key the music is in.

Rhythm - from note lengths, time signatures, dots and ties, to more advanced rhythms from triplets, syncopations and additive metres, to how to write rests (silences).

Harmony - from reading two or more notes simultaneously, to recognising different types of chords (from inversions to dominant 7ths and suspensions/dissonances).

N.B. We will use real musical examples drawn from a wide variety of musical styles.

> "A Musician Sees with his Ears and Hears with his Eyes" (*Schnabel*)

In comparison to a lot of music reading teaching - where the focus can be on the mere decoding of symbols and their translation into physical actions - *you'll find Tonalis' methods always develop:*

- your **MUSICALITY**
- your understanding of **THE INNER LIFE OF MUSIC**
- & • your **LISTENING SKILLS**.

This means there's never any separation between music reading and your musical expression and that there's always a movement from **EYE** → **EAR** → **VOICE** (or instrument), namely an **AUDIATION** (or inner hearing) of **NOTATION**.

> Explore the Evolution of Notation (from Ancient to Modern)

For millenia a key question musicians have worked with is how to translate the aural medium of music into a visual one.

We'll look at:

- the evolution of notation in the Middle Ages and key innovators such as Guido d'Arezzo
- other kinds of music notation, from pictographs & signs for actions (e.g. guitar tablature), to signs for musical gestures (e.g. Gregorian Chant neumes)
- the way music is written down in unique ways in different cultures
- new ways of notating melodies and rhythms (e.g. modern graphic notation).

In addition, we'll investigate the LIMITATIONS of music notation.

N.B. A CERTIFICATE OF COURSE COMPLETION is given to students at the end of the course.

Who For?

This **HIGHLY PRACTICAL AND IMAGINATIVE COURSE** is essential for:

- people who'd like to be able to learn compositions from sheet music
- participants such as teachers whose work brings them into contact with music notation
- choir singers who'd like to either learn to read music, or improve their music reading
- people beginning to learn to play instruments
- composers wanting to write their musical ideas down so that they can share them with others.

Above all, it will introduce you to Key Skills that will help you:

- i) read music more fluently, ii) get inside the music, iii) develop your aural skills and gain confidence in all your music making.

**So if you want to learn to read and write music,
this is the course for YOU!**

Michael Deason-Barrow (GRSM, ARCM) - Tonalis Director - has always had an intense need to understand the essence of music which has led him to look at the world of music from wider perspectives. 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. All this has enabled him to extend the boundaries of musical understanding. You will find he as the gift of making complex musical questions clear and utterly fascinating.

Methods - Orchestrating the Harmony of the Hemi-Spheres

Everyone learns in different ways. The course will therefore help you identify your unique learning style and help you find the right learning strategies and study skills for you.

Thus all learning takes place via a multifaceted and MULTI-SENSORY engagement with music, combining • Visual, Aural and Kinaesthetic Methods and • Right and Left Brain Learning.

The Duration and Structure of the Course

This course offers **12 days** Contact Time with teachers using either **6 weekend modules** or **12 single days: one/month**.

Times: All weekends begin at 11am on Saturday and end at 5pm on Sunday.

Distance Learning. The aim of all the teaching provided during contact time is that it should act as a springboard to launch you into your own practice at home. Recommendations are given at the end of each module for home practice, so that your music reading develops ever greater fluency.

Distance Learning Study Hours: As a guide we advise a minimum of 4 hours/ week.

Resources and Study Materials. To assist distance learning, students are asked to study Michael's book on notation: 'The Listening Eye', 'Sightsinging – The Complete Method' by Mike Campbell, and 'Learning to Read Music' by Peter Nickol.

Testimonials

"Tonalis has the most wonderful and effective methods for teaching you how to read and understand music. They go far beyond mechanically reading music; they enable you to feel and embody it. I learnt more in one day with Tonalis than I had done in decades of music lessons and choir singing."

(Sophie Baker participant on Tonalis 'Inner Life of Music' Training)

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', Reading Univ.

FEES

Tuition Fees:	£475	£495	£520
		(i.e. 2 x £248)	(i.e. 3 x £174)
If paying in:	1 instalment	2 instalments	3 instalments

Discounted Fees = £20 deducted from the Fees for Early Booking by June 1st.

Work Scholarship Fee: £65 off the above fees

A LIMITED number of Work Scholarships are available to help with setting up and clearing away, etc. Priority is given to students and people on Income Support. Please check availability.



APPLICATION FORM - The Listening Eye

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:** _____

Would you like to receive an accommodation list of local B&Bs and family hosts (c.£22/night)? Yes ☐ No ☐

Meals Lunches will be Bring & Share, Suppers are available at local cafés.

A Registration Letter -
including Travel Information, Registration Times and a Questionnaire - will be sent on receipt of your Application Form and Deposit/Admin.Fee.