

Workshops

Kim Robertson

- **TRICKS OF THE TRADE**

Saturday 9:00, Sir Guy Carleton

In this workshop, learn to be prepared for any type of performance, and leave stage fright behind. Using various tricks & techniques, including musical safety-nets, exit points and other strategies, you can increase your focus and comfort level on stage and become a fearless, confident performer.

Level: Beginner. Hands-on, for performers or aspiring performers, all levels, ability to read music not necessary, some basic music theory will be covered.

- **PLAYING BACK-UP**

Saturday 13:30, Sir Guy Carleton

Learn to be a "rhythm instrument," playing "power chords", syncopated rhythms, bass lines, dampening techniques and other hip patterns that are easy to play and will add excitement to your arrangements. Focus will be on one and two-hand patterns for both solo playing and for playing back-up with a band or sitting in at a session.

Level: Intermediate. Ability to read music not necessary, basic knowledge of chord structure helpful.

- **MUSICAL SANDWICHES**

Sunday 9:00, Sir Guy Carleton

A look at 2-hand chord "sandwiches", including voicings and rhythmic progressions that will bring a new dimension to your playing. They can be used for expanding arrangements as well as improvisation and self-expression. Hands on, all levels. Ideal for "Right-brain" intuitive people.

Level: All. No musical knowledge required, but basic 2-hand coordination helpful.

- **INSPIRED ARRANGING**

Sunday 10:45, Sir Guy Carleton

Tell a story with your arrangements, learning simple formulas for introductions, interludes and endings. A look at dynamics, suspended chords, "musical sandwiches", patterns and progressions that will expand the possibilities of any repertoire.

Level: Intermediate level, ability to read music not necessary, basic knowledge of chord structure helpful.

Sharlene Wallace

- **A FIDDLE TUNE FOR HARP**

Saturday 9:00, Montcalm

Learn a beautiful tune by Canadian fiddle player Oliver Schroer and explore arranging ideas for this piece and others in 4/4 time. (intermediate and advanced level).

Level: Intermediate and Advanced

- **CALM AS A CUCUMBER**

Saturday 10:45, Sir Guy Carleton

... or trying to be! Conversations about playing for an audience of one or a thousand, and ideas to help that experience be a good, giving and beautiful thing. In other words... taming your nerves!.

Level: All

- **MY TUNES AND YOUR TUNES**

Sunday 10:45, Montcalm

Creating your own music. This workshop will be twofold: 1. Sharlene will talk about her own experiences and approaches to creating music through examples of some of her compositions. 2. You are invited to bring one of your own compositions that is completed or in process, for ideas and feedback from Sharlene. (As many compositions as possible will be heard, time permitting) This workshop welcomes those already writing their own music as well as anyone dreaming of it or simply curious!

Level: All

Lucile Brais Hildesheim

- **GORGEOUS SOUND AND HOW TO ACHIEVE IT**

Saturday 13:30, Montcalm

Learn to maximize use of strings in order to produce a rich sound. Focus will be on single notes, phrasing, and chords of all kinds; widening dynamic range; and how the whole body gets involved. Also, a brief overview of tuning.

Level: All. Ability to read music not necessary but a basic knowledge of notes and chords helpful.

- **INTRODUCTION TO IMPROVISATION**

Sunday 9:00, Montcalm

Creating melodies from chord progressions; creating melodies with chords only; expanding on existing melodies; creating introductions, codas, interludes... it's all a game and loads of fun.

Level: Intermediate. A good understanding of chord structure, basic musical knowledge & ability to read music necessary.

Ian Hepburn

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- **EXPLORING VIBRO-ACOUSTIC HARP THERAPY**

Saturday 3:15, Sir Guy Carleton

Vibro-Acoustic Harp Therapy (VAHT) was developed by American harpist/psychologist Sarajane Williams in 1990 but its origins date back to biblical times. In 2007, the Hawkesbury & District General Hospital (Hawkesbury, Ontario) became the first hospital in North America to offer VAHT to its patients. A new therapy, with harp at its centre, is ready to take off. In this presentation, the past, present and future of VAHT will be examined.

Past: developments leading to the creation of VAHT. Present: current work at Hawkesbury General; research into the effects of VAHT on fibromyalgia and chronic pain. Future: techniques to be explored and where it may lead. A demonstration of VAHT will be given along with a description of the equipment used.

Open to all conference participants; no registration or harps required.

Tanah Haney

- **PLAYING IN AN IRISH SESSION**

Saturday 10:45, Montcalm

Learn how to be an active part of any Celtic session. Quick and easy chord accompaniment; getting to know the standard tune types (jigs, reels, slip jigs, polkas, etc.); developing a “Celtic ear”; how to keep up with the flutes and fiddles in a fast session; the unique and ever-changing role of the harp player in modern Irish music.

Level: All levels, hands-on. Some knowledge of chords and basic 2-hand coordination helpful, ability to read music not necessary.

- **INTRODUCTION TO THE CLASSIC MODES**

Saturday 1:30, Lady Carleton

Exploring all the Classic Greek modes, their place in early and modern music, and how to have fun with them on the harp. This workshop will primarily focus on learning using the oral tradition (all tunes will be taught by ear), however sheet music will also be provided for each tune.

Level: All levels, hands-on, suitable for beginners. Ability to read music helpful but not necessary.

Sara Lackie

- **EXPLORING THE BAROQUE HARP**

Saturday 9:00, Lady Carleton

This workshop introduces students to the fascinating world of historical harping, with an in-depth look at the 17th-century Italian Baroque triple harp. As the name suggests, this exquisite instrument is furnished with 3 parallel rows of strings, making the instrument fully chromatic throughout its range—without the use of hooks, levers or pedals. The history of the Baroque triple harp, its repertoire and specialized playing techniques, will be discussed and demonstrated. Students will also have the opportunity to examine and try this rare instrument for themselves.

Levels: All levels, harps not required.

Mary Muckle

- **CELTIC MUSIC: THE ART AND THE TRADITION**

Saturday 10:45, Lady Carleton

Mary will do a multi-media presentation of a history of the harp among the Celts with a particular emphasis on the evolution and tradition of the harp in Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The presentation will hi-light the depiction of harp and harp-like instruments on early Christian stone crosses and the depiction of historical harps surviving from the Medieval through Classical era. Areas of focus will include the essential part of the harp in the performance of poetry, the life and music of Turlough O'Carolan and the Belfast Harpers' Festival of 1792. There will be demonstrations through harp performance, which will include Cantorion Cerdd Dant Ottawa, a Welsh vocal ensemble dedicated to the performance of penillion, an art form flourishing in modern Wales, which combines sung poetry and harp accompaniment.

Level: All levels, no harps required.

Joanne Griffin

- **INTERNATIONAL HEALING MUSICIAN'S PROGRAM**

Sunday 10:45, Lady Carleton

By the fall of 2009, Joanne will have graduated from Stella Benson's International Healing Musician's Program. This workshop will provide a general overview of the course, how one becomes a healing musician, what is required as a student, and current opportunities for professional work in this field. From Joanne's very recent experience you will learn about working as a harpist at the bedside, the importance of improvisation, the protocol involved in working in curative and palliative environments, and how music attends to the whole person - physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually.

Levels: All. Harps not required.

Acacia Lyra Harp Duo

Janine Dudding & Susan Sweeney Hermon

- **HOW DO YOU DUO** *Sunday 9:00, Lady Carleton*

Friendship in music: Double the sound, double the intricacy of your pieces and double the fun! Susan and Janine discuss strategies and simple approaches to playing as a duo, from choosing material and key signatures, to cooperative arranging.

Level: All. Harp not necessary.

***Note:** Skill levels have been assigned to each workshop. We ask that you respect those assignments, if you do not meet that level you are more than welcome to attend as an auditor. Workshops will be on time, no food/beverages in workshop areas (other than water).*