

## Who is the Course for?

This course is for everyone who wants to explore how rhythm weaves its magic. It will be a real rhythmic workout and will stretch the boundaries of your musical world.

You will find Michael's approach is holistic, strongly practical and utterly professional. N.B. The music will be taught using traditional and new aural and movement learning processes.

## WEEKEND 1 will introduce you to:

- all the fundamentals of rhythm and loads of stunning percussion instruments
- the mysteries of time in music and different insights into what is meant by rhythm
- rhythm improvisations and circle games to develop rhythmic awareness
- the beguiling rhythmic worlds of Indian Talas, Javanese Gamelan and Irish Sean Nós.

## WEEKEND 2 will explore:

- drum circles for community building
- the vibrant and energetic grooves of many world musics from Africa, South America and the West Indies, to Eastern European rhythms, the Balinese Ketchak dance and an Inuit Chant.

## Course Leaders

**Michael Deason-Barrow** (GRSM, ARCM) - Tonalis Director - has always looked at the world of music from wider perspectives. He has built a reputation as a master teacher and has taught at all levels, from universities, to music therapy, community music and school contexts. Michael is also one of the world's leading experts in world vocal styles and recognised for being that rare exponent, a specialist at home with professionals and non-specialists alike.

**James Cheseldine** is a master teacher of world percussion, an expert on West African and North Indian music and enjoys teaching these musics in accessible and enjoyable ways to people of all ages and abilities. On this course he will lead the Indian, African and Drum Circle sessions.

Early Bird fee  
**FEES:** Part 1: £ 82 (until Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>)      £ 90 (thereafter)  
Part 2: £ 82 (until Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>)      £ 90 (thereafter)  
Both Parts: £150 (until Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>)      £162 (thereafter)

£12 off the above fees for Group Bookings (3+), Students & People on Income Support.

Work Scholarship available (33% discount) Meals: In local Cafés. Tea & Coffee provided.

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

**TONALIS, 4 Castle Farm Close, Leighterton, Glos. GL8 8UY. Tel: 01666-890460**

Application Form: 'Worlds of Rhythm' Part 1  Part 2  Both

Please complete & send to the above address with a £40 non-refundable Deposit payable to - 'Tonalis'.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me an Accommodation List of Local hosts (c.£22/night) and B&Bs



## ◆ Have a real Rhythm Work-out

◆ Learn Unforgettable Songs & Play Amazing Percussion Pieces with Great Rhythm Grooves from all Around the World

◆ Explore Drum Circles to Build Community

◆ Get Inside the Mysteries of Time in Music

◆ Learn Holistic Rhythm Teaching Skills

Part 1  
OCTOBER  
15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>

Tonalis

Part 2  
NOVEMBER  
19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>

(N.B. Each part can be taken separately.)

Course Leader: Michael Deason-Barrow

Guest Teacher: James Cheseldine

VENUE - Tonalis Music Centre, Stroud, GLOS  
Enquiries: Tel: 01666-890460 / e: info@tonalismusic.co.uk

## Worlds of Rhythm

This 2 part course offers you the opportunity to explore everything you always wanted to know about how rhythm weaves its magic.

It will be a real rhythm work-out and the chance to jump into the exciting world of rhythm ensembles.

- You'll learn:
- many drumming and percussion techniques
  - songs with great rhythms and energetic grooves
  - new rhythm, improvisation and aural skills
- plus
- how to create rhythm circles for team building.

On this fascinating journey you will hear all about the fundamentals of rhythms.

There will be loads of activities to help your rhythmic development, plus introductions to key rhythmic elements that underlie so many of the world's rhythms, from syncopation and changing metres to polymetres, backbeats and upbeats.

### Play a Vibrant Array of Percussion Instruments

You'll have the opportunity to play a wonderful array of exotic instruments from the bugarabu, udu and the talking drum, to tablas, shamanic drums, a huge new lap xylophone, and metal instruments from agogo bells to gongs.

### Explore Unforgettable Multi-Cultural & Contemporary Rhythms

Michael will introduce you to characteristic rhythms from all around the world, e.g.:

- energetic rhythms from Ghana & Zimbabwe (e.g. the marimba music of the Shona people)
  - Brazilian Samba
  - South American rhythms from Peru and Ecuador
  - West Indian grooves and back-beats
  - dancing Eastern European rhythms (e.g. the mixed metres of Macedonia)
- mysterious Middle Eastern rhythms
- Indian Talas &
- the Balinese Kechak chant

*Also explore more contemplative worlds of rhythm, from:*

- Indonesian Gamelan to
- the mindfulness of the Chinese Percussion orchestra.

*But this course will not just be about world rhythms.*

*It will also be about:*

- New Forms of rhythm in Contemporary Music from Stravinsky to Messiaen
- Rhythms in Work Songs from Folk Traditions.

## The Mysteries of Time in Music

In the midst of all the playing, singing and improvising we will also investigate What We Mean by Rhythm and the Nature of Time through exploring:

- How composers evoke different kinds of time - from circular to linear time
- How can different tuning systems embody different experiences of time and space?
- Why some musics live in the lightness of the upbeat and others dwell in the weight of the downbeat?
- Why some metres were called 'perfect' and others 'imperfect'?

### Drum Circle Communities

Drum circle offers an open space for people to come together and share their love of rhythm. Led by master drum circle facilitator, James Cheseldine, he'll introduce you to rhythm circles:

- for team and community building in the work place
- as a synergiser for conferences and festivals
- as a healing tool in music therapy.
- for spiritual development/religious groups wanting to create new forms of communion.

What you will find is drum circles give a form of rhythmic massage and the chance for extraordinary creativity via the use of improvisation. Above all, this rhythm circle work will empower you to take these practical tools back into your communities.

### An outstanding array of Rhythm Games and Songs

In addition to all the rhythm genres we will explore (see above), there'll be loads of games and improvisations with intriguing titles such as '*On and Off*'; '*Fixed and Free*'.

In addition there'll be GREAT SONGS TO SING that are full of unforgettable rhythms, from an upbeat Nigerian song to a Bulgarian dance song in additive metres.

### Free/Non-Measured Time - Eternity, Breath and Natural Rhythms

To balance the very embodied and energetic grooves found in many of the above musics, *the course will also offer you the chance to explore*

other kinds of rhythm not based upon any pulse, from the rhythms of nature, to organic and breath time, where the rhythm is determined by elements such as the human breath, the bow on a string, and the natural duration of metal instruments (e.g. Gongs), for example.

- the Alap section of Indian Ragas
- 'breathing Zen rhythms in Japanese Music
- the eternal time of Gregorian Chant
- and
- the kinetic rhythms of Irish Sean Nós.

In this way you will experience how eternity is not a long time, because it is outside time and how no amount of time can make eternity. St. Augustine called this 'the now that does not pass away', namely the timeless now celebrated in Buddhism.