

## Who is the Course for?

This course will go into every facet of England's extraordinary musical inheritance and is for all those explorers who want to uncover the essence of the 'English Folk Soul in Music'.

## Testimonial

Tonalis is watering the roots of music, reviving the mystery through precise techniques, and nurturing the sacred which lies behind all inspiring performance. It is vital work.

Jonathan Harvey - Composer, Author of 'Music and Inspiration'

## Course Tutor

*Michael Deason-Barrow's* deeply felt love of England makes him your perfect guide to this theme. He was a chorister in that most quintessential of English cathedrals, Salisbury, and used to go to Britten's home in Aldeburgh to have singing lessons with the most English of all singers, Peter Pears. Michael has also sung English Folk Music throughout the country and arranges folk music for choirs. He has been active in English folk rituals from Morris Dancing to Mummers' Plays. For many years Michael has lived in the rolling Cotswold hills where to this day he regularly roams in the steps of Vaughan Williams, Finzi, Gurney and Howells.

## Fees

**Early Bird Fees** £118 (for booking by June 1st) £125 (by July 15th) £130 (thereafter)

**Group Bookings (3+) & Couples:** £8 each off the above fees **OAPs:** £5 off the above fees

**N.B. Weekend Attendance only is welcomed:** £85 (by June 1) / £90 (thereafter)

**Work Scholarship:** £80 (contact us for details)

**Lunches:** Bring your own or lunch at the nearby local pub, 'Old Dunnings Mill'.

**Times:** Aug. 3rd: 11:30 - 6:30pm; Aug 4th: 10 - 6pm; Aug 5th: 10 - 4pm

**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 - Voices of England

Please complete & send to the above address with your cheque payable to - 'Tonalis'  
or pay into the Tonalis account: Sort Code 08-92-50, Account #68684633  
& send us an email with your contact details.

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

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

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

Would you like accommodation at the Peredur Centre  
(@ £27/night, bring your own breakfast)?

Yes ☐

No ☐

# Voices of England

## Explore the Spirit of England in Music



## DISCOVER

how English • Landscapes • Spirituality • History  
• Language • Character & • Culture  
have shaped the **SOUNDSCAPES** of this Sceptered Isle

*Tonalis*

Led by Michael Deason-Barrow

**AUGUST 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> 2019**

**VENUE - Peredur Arts Centre, E. Grinstead, SUSSEX**  
Enquiries: Tel. 01666-890460 info@tonalismusic.co.uk  
www.tonalismusic.co.uk

# Voices of England

The celebrated poet, Philip Larkin, said,  
"the English have become poor caretakers of Englishness"  
(especially compared to the way our Celtic kingdoms are perceived).

This course on the MUSIC OF ALBION  
tells a story of breath-taking scope.  
It gives you the chance to reflect on  
the DEEPER ARCHETYPES of Englishness in a totally new light  
namely, through the realm of music.

So 'WHAT IS ENGLISH MUSIC'?

- Is it National Songs like Parry's 'Jerusalem',  
or that most English of all melodies 'Greensleeves'?
- Is it the English Folk Songs Vaughan Williams collected?
- Is it early English Music from 'Sumer is i-cumen in' or the Tudor music of Tallis?
- Is it Vaughan Williams' 'Lark Ascending' and Elgar's 'Nimrod'?
- Or is it the Beatles?
- And what about the influence of truly ancient Britain (e.g. Stonehenge  
or the myths of King Arthur) and how this is inspiring English Music now?

## Key Themes 'Voices of England' will Explore

### > DAY 1 - ENGLISH FOLK SONG

The English folk song collector Cecil Sharp said, "to gauge the musical potentialities of a nation - look to the musical utterances of those who are least affected by extraneous educational influences, namely folk singers." After all the first folk song Sharp collected was, 'The Seeds of Love', sung by that most aptly named vicarage gardener, John England of Somerset.

Thus we'll explore the unique voices, melodies and rhythms of English Folk Song, through singing songs and choral music full of the special scales, intervals, melodic contours and free rhythms that so characterise the organic nature of this music.

### > DAY 2 - Explore the world of ENGLISH EARLY MUSIC

Journey from Anglo-Saxon sources to the 'Agincourt Carol' and from that most famous of all rounds, 'Sumer is i-cumen in', to the way the Reformation and the Tudors affected music in the compositions of Dowland, Tallis and Byrd. (We'll even sing a song attributed to Henry VIII!)

Finally, we'll also explore the splendours of Purcell's Restoration England – and the influence of Cromwell on music – to why Handel found his spiritual home in England.

Along the way there'll be excursions into special English musical features such as 'English cadences' (where light and dark and joy and sorrow are uniquely mixed together).

### > DAY 3 - Explore the 'RENAISSANCE' of English Music in the C20th

Meet the quintessential England of Elgar's Malverns, Butterworth's 'Shropshire Lad' and the rounded contours edges of Vaughan Williams' Gloucestershire, most notably in the English spirituality of his celebrated 'Lark Ascending'. We'll also tune into the elemental moorland of Holst's 'Egdon Heath', the wild coast lines of Britten's Suffolk and the sea that surrounds us immortalised in Massfield's, 'I must go down to the sea again ...'

### > What are the Distinctive Elements of English Soundscapes?

*Here you'll find*

- RHYTHMS freed from the tyranny of the bar line, loads of trochaic and triplet rhythms, irregular metres and 'senza misura' songs in abundance
- MELODIES which sound an incorporeal, non-linear art, full of the modes with their flattened 7ths that so perfectly characterise the English temperament.
- HARMONIES full of modal chords and liquescent voice movement
- FORMS such as 'theme and variations', 'rhapsodies' and 'fantasias'.

Woven into these 3 days will be reflections on the many

### > Themes and Variations of Englishness that Shape our Music

*from the influence of English:*

- Landscape and Weather
- Language & its Poetry (from Shakespeare, Blake & Houseman to Hardy)
- Character (from reticence to the eccentricity of Lewis Carroll)
- to • Religion, Spirituality and Nature Mysticism.

*N.B. All the music will also be explored against the vivid backdrops of English • HISTORY • PHILOSOPHY & • PAINTINGS (e.g. Blake, Turner & Nash) which will build fascinating bridges of insight for you into English Music.*

To illustrate all of the above there'll be

🎧 **GUIDED LISTENING**

to key representative examples of English Music

- 🎧 The chance to **SING** glorious exemplars of **ENGLISH CHORAL** and **VOCAL MUSIC** so that you can live into the essence of the English Folk Soul in Music.