

Appalachian Women Songwriters - P (Miller)

Appalachia is known for its wealth of music and folk art traditions, but an integral part of that wealth is the persistent creativity of its the artists who know those traditional forms so well. We will listen to and talk about several female artists from the region who create inspiring new songs alongside the old ones, and will learn two or three songs together.

Chanteys and Maritime Music - S

The main idea attendees can expect to get out of the workshop is that singing sea chanteys is awesome. This will be a round robin song-share - everyone who wants to will have a chance to lead. I'll bring some copies of my chantey book, and others should feel free to do so as well.

Fantastic Songs and Where to Find Them! - T/P (Cumming)

Join me on a ramble through the internet as I guide you through some of the 'magical' websites and archives you should know about! It is fantastic that so much is now available online, but many of these sites are confusing and hard to navigate, so with my (almost) trusty laptop and a projector in hand, I will be ready to answer your questions! ALOHOMORA!

Harmony 101 - T

Love the sound of harmonies but not sure how to start? We will explore the basics of intervals, tone, and pitch control, with opportunities for practice in pairs and as a large group. Beginner harmony singers encouraged, experienced harmony singers welcome!

Irish Ballads - S

This will be a song circle focused on sharing Irish ballads, or similar songs.

Jewish Community Singing - P/S

We will sit together and sing in different Jewish traditions, spanning Eastern Europe, Yemen, and the United States. I'll also share some personal stories from my family's journeys how this music came to me. Jewish song is beautiful, diverse, and essential to our communities. We'll sing in Hebrew, English, Yiddish, and most of all with no words.

Misandry Songs - S

Come sing songs in which men get what they deserve! All genders welcome, but people who have lived as women/girls should be the primary voices.

New England Ballads - P/T (Eriksen)

Yes, there is such a thing. Taking "New England" and "ballads" as points of reference rather than hard boundaries, we will explore the generalities of solo, especially unaccompanied, singing of narrative song as well as historical and stylistic subtleties that are not often addressed (microtonal variation, singing in five beats, the origins of northeastern elites' promotion of southern Appalachia as the heart of the "real" (white) America).

Racial Diversity in the Trad Song Community - D

Every year the YTS committee gets feedback that attendees want the event to include more people of color. In this workshop we'll discuss what we each notice and experience about race in our trad song communities and brainstorm ideas for what we want to do about that as individuals, song leaders, organizers, and community members. (NB: This conversation is focusing on the fact that our community is predominantly white rather than racism in trad song lyrics.)

Shape-note Singing And The Abolition Movement - P/S (Eriksen)

The bracing four part harmony singing that has come to be known as "shape-note" music is part of the lost soundtrack of nineteenth century civil rights movements beginning with abolitionism. One hundred and fifty years before the hit musical Hamilton! New Englanders of African and Algonquian descent took to the stage embodying the US Founders, including their own ancestors, in costume and song. Their music of choice included many songs still sung from The Sacred Harp and other shape-note collections. A few towns over,

militant anarchist/feminist/abolitionist Henry C. Wright helped lead a group of local senior citizens in many of the same songs, and when prominent African American abolitionist David Ruggles needed music for his poem “Woman’s Right” he looked to the same tradition. Why? Come find out, while honing your vocal skills singing wonderful music with friends.

Shenandoah Harmony: Fun with Time Signatures! - P/S

Singers will learn about time in the shape note tradition, from the basics of singing and beating time in duple, triple, and complex meters, to experimenting with singing songs outside of their written time signature and finding hidden possibilities for creating emotional and spiritual experiences with varied time signatures. Beginners are very welcome!

Somerset, Sharp and Me - P/S (Cumming)

I was born and bred in the county of Somerset in England which I discovered in my teenage years was where a victorian gentleman by the name of Cecil Sharp first collected folk songs. We will have a brief look at Sharp and his legacy and (several) faults and then learn some of the first songs he ever collected, which also happen to be from just a village away from where I grew up!

Songs of Heartbreak - T (Miller)

In this class we sort through some of the nuts and bolts of country singing (ornamentation, delivery, feeling) to get down to the core of what it is that makes a sad, sad country song pierce so deeply into the soul. There will be the chance for some individual feedback, masterclass style, as well as plenty of chance for everyone to try out some new singing techniques on a song (or two, depending on time).

Songs of Maggie Hammons Parker - P/T (Miller)

Maggie Hammons Parker of Pocahontas County, West Virginia was an incredible tradition-bearer, both in her repertoire (songs, banjo tunes, rhymes and stories) and her musical style. She was born at the very end of the 19th century into a legendary West Virginian musical family, the Hammonses, and was featured on recordings for the Library of Congress alongside her brothers Burl and Sherman and some of their neighbors. In this class, we will learn several songs that she sang and also listen to her vocal style and work on singing technique.

Songs That Get To You - S

This will be a repeat of a session we held last year, where attendees sang a song of emotional meaning to the singer, a song that lies just on the edge of personal comfort with emotional vulnerability, with the singers saying as much or as a little about the song and their issues with the song as they chose.

Temperance Songs from the Ohio Harmonist - P/S

Come sing some songs about not drinking and saving the world from poverty, child neglect, and irresponsibility. This workshop will have sheet music using shape note notation, however you will not need to follow the sheet music in order to sing these songs. There will be a mix of singing from a set of songs and talking in this workshop. Additional songs from attendees are welcome, time permitting.

The Songcatcher: Olive Dame Campbell - P/S (Cumming)

Olive Dame Campbell (1882–1954) has left a huge legacy in folk music, song and dance and yet her name is often forgotten or glanced over. She was born and raised in Medford, MA and went on to become a folklorist and song collector working across New England, The Appalachians and beyond. She co-published the book ‘English Folk Songs from the Southern Appalachians’ with Cecil Sharp after taking him to the songsters in the mountains. In 2000, a movie called The Songcatcher was released (loosely) based on the life and work of Olive Dame Campbell. Come and join me as we explore her legacy and learn some of the songs she collected over her long and exciting career.