

‘Fabulous Fitkin Festival’ 2023

Aim

These are performance based courses, with pieces being learned in advance so that they can be workshopped, polished, and performed to a high standard. There is a focus on making music together, as part of a team, developing listening, sharing, and collaborative communication skills. The curriculum is designed to develop creativity, as well as instrumental and performance skills. Practical musicianship through percussion, and creativity through composition, compliment the performance based activities.

Although each student has an individually designed programme, the whole workshop is an enveloping learning environment blending ages and levels, with courses for the younger students alongside advanced courses, and courses for Suzuki Alumni.

The final day is a day of performances, some of which will be open to the public. Wednesday evening is the Staff concert.

NOTES:

Before reading about the courses below please be advised that the course content is subject to change or modification, depending upon the nature and level of enrolment, and any other factors which might arise.

It is recommended that consideration is given to taking out insurance against the possible cancellation of the workshop, or in the case of students and parents not being able to attend as planned.

All fees are non-refundable.

Due to the complex nature of the programming, and because each student has in effect an individual timetable (with some collaborative activities, alongside individual assignments), I have not indicated the number of lessons for any activity. Previous experiences show that the timetable is also likely to change prior to, and during, the Summer workshop, and some lessons might be cancelled, amended, or moved, shortened, enlarged, etc. as the situation evolves. Participation on the course is offered only with this understanding of possible fluctuations, and the agreement and understanding of the parents to these conditions.

A parent or guardian is required to accompany their child at all times and be present at all lessons & concerts etc.

As this is non-residential workshop, recommended accommodation is Selwyn college B&B, or one of the other nearby Colleges like Newnham. Selwyn is located right next door to ‘Cambridge University Faculty of Music’. You can even request a room with a piano in it!

Theme

It’s quite unbelievable that the ever youthful Graham Fitkin will be 60 next year(!). He has been an amazing friend and inspiration for Cambridge Suzuki Young Musicians (CSYM) over the past 21 years, helping the students by coaching his music and revealing its depths, teaching composition, and during this time writing 5 pieces for CSYM. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate his music.

Two public concerts will showcase his music. It’s going to be fabulous, frenetic, high energy, and very special.

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Alongside this focus on Fitkin, I will select some chamber music pieces from the 20th century, Baroque, Classical and Romantic eras, for rehearsal and performance.

PIANO Late Intermediate: pianists up to the age of 18 in Suzuki book 5/6.

4-piano or 2-piano

Piano and strings, or piano and percussion

Percussion

Solo piece by Graham Fitkin, or Masterclass on Suzuki repertoire

Fee: £700

PIANO Advanced: Open to:

Open to advanced level pianists (post grade 8-Diploma) ages 9-18, or Suzuki level V (Italian Concerto) and higher.

Chamber music for piano and violin, viola etc,

Performance and coaching by the composer of his solo works (optional)

Mozart K414, 415, or 466 concerto movement, or movement from Bach f minor.

Piano duet, or two-piano, or 4-piano

Percussion

Fee = £750

STRING course: Open to:

Post grade 8 string players and Suzuki students of violin, viola, and cello.

String quartet by Graham Fitkin.

Chamber music for piano and string(s).

Percussion

Performance

Fee = £450

Composition: This is an elective and numbers are limited. The fee will depend on the numbers enrolled. Students have the opportunity to write for violin, viola, cello, piano, and percussion. The pieces will be workshopped by the instrumental tutors.

FACULTY

Everyone has been with us before on previous Summer Schools and all have worked with composer Graham Fitkin. They are professional artist/teachers string players Rose Hinton, Henrietta Hill, and

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Andrew Power, and the sensational Chris Bannick. Betty and Stephen will also be teaching Masterclasses, and coaching piano ensembles. Additional staff members will be announced later.

Chris Bannick

A polymath percussionist, singer and actor, with both maths and music degrees, and an award-winning screenwriter. [www.Chris Brannick.co.uk](http://www.ChrisBrannick.co.uk)

Graham Fitkin (to be confirmed)

Composer, pianist, and conductor. ‘I compose for live performance, recording, dance, media and installations.’ fitkin.com

Henrietta Hill

Violist and Violinist based in the UK. Henrietta enjoys a varied career, with a special interest in Chamber Music and Contemporary Music.

Rose Hinton

Enjoys a varied, freelance career, performing as part of both classical and commercial ensembles.

Andrew Power

Violoncello. As a new music advocate, Andrew has performed internationally in ensembles directed among others by Matthias Pintscher, Enno Poppe, Beat Furrer, Lucas Vis, Peter Rundel, Pierre-Andre Valade, James Weeks and Gregory Vajda. He has performed with Exaudi and Plus-Minus Ensemble, Ensemble Modern, Athelas Sinfonietta, Ensemble Intercontemporain, and was featured on the recording of Verzeichnete Spur, for Double Bass, Three Cellos, Instruments and Live Electronics by Matthias Pintscher from the 2021 release Nemeton.

Betty Power

Graduate of Dr. Suzuki’s School on Matsumoto, where she spent three years studying. Betty is also a Kodaly specialist, and early years education specialist. Her students have been awarded places at specialist music school, at AYM (a ‘Centre for Advanced Training’), NYOGB (as composer), Conservatoire Saturday music school, and many have been awarded places as choristers at King’s, St Johns, St. Catherine’s, etc.

Stephen Power

The first piano teacher in Europe to Graduate in 1983 (under the first ESA Teacher Training scheme) as a Suzuki teacher. This was followed by a total of nine months study in Matsumoto with Dr.Suzuki and Dr. Kataoka. In 1994 he became a teacher trainer in the Suzuki Approach. Currently, he is working Internationally online with teachers from South Africa, Zambia, and Germany.

Over the last 41 years he has created and curated a large number of special concerts and workshops. His passion for new music and education has led him to commission new music from a number of leading composers including Charlotte Bray, Regis Campo and Colin Matthews. His students have been first prize winners at the two International Piano Competitions for new music in Europe (Orleans and Fribourg).

HOW TO APPLY

Please send an e-mail to Stephen Power to confirm that you would like to apply for a place on the workshop with the name of your child, or children, who your teacher is, and their e-mail address.

You will then be asked to send a video of a recent concert performance (of around two minutes), via WeTransfer or Google Drive.

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Application should be made by 1 December, so as to allow time for repertoire, particularly collaborative works, to be assigned and learnt.

You will be notified if your application has been successful by 10 December.

Payments will be due after this date, in full, or in two instalments.

Payment can be made directly into the CSYM group account and you will be sent a link to the CSYM group treasurer.