

Soulsha Workshop Descriptions

Our members can give any of these workshops. Teaching can be tailored to the level or the desires of the participants – whether it's kids in a school, university-level music students, or curious adults. Members of Soulsha have taught workshops all over the world at many music camps, festivals, and universities.

Sabar Drumming and Dance from Senegal

With Lamine Touré assisted by Orlando Retana and Elias Alexander
Lamine Touré teaches the fundamentals of the Sabar drumming style from Senegal. Stemming from a family of griots with traditional knowledge spanning hundreds of years, Lamine has toured the world with numerous groups including the Orchestre Nationale of Senegal. He leads the Rambax ensemble at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Participants will get an introduction to the drums, learn a few baaks, or musical phrases, and learn some dance movements that go with the rhythms. Lamine will also discuss the history of the Sabar tradition in Senegal.

Speaking Across Boundaries: Collaboration Through Tradition

With members of Soulsha

How can we respect our own traditions and heritage while still honoring and learning from the traditions of others? Soulsha will demonstrate and discuss their process of working together and offer participants a chance to engage with their heritage and each other through story and music.

Folk Melodies, Jazz Improvisation

With Dylan Sherry and Neil Pearlman

Dylan Sherry and Neil Pearlman will discuss their approach to embarking on jazz improvisations based on folk melodies. Applying jazz theory to folk tunes, improvisation skills, and vocabulary will also be covered.

Tunes and Traditions from Scotland

With Elias Alexander, Galen Fraser, Neil Pearlman, Conor Hearn

These four will teach compelling melodies from the Scottish tradition. They will also discuss the context of Scottish traditional music past and present, where Scottish tune forms come from, and how they interact with dance and song.

Accompanying Traditional Tunes

With Neil Pearlman and Conor Hearn

Neil Pearlman and Conor Hearn will discuss their approaches to harmonizing traditional melodies. Both versatile musicians in many genres, they can teach the basics or delve into using jazz and funk influences to approach accompaniment.

Solo Bass Tapping

With Charles Berthoud

Charles Berthoud, co-author of the bass instructional book, *Two Handed Tapping*, has made a name for himself as a virtuosic solo bass player. He'll teach the basics of the tapping techniques that have made him famous.