

The 21st Century Art of Being a 'Medieval' Musician: A Workshop for Singers and Instrumentalists directed by Belinda Sykes



WHO North East Early Music Forum invites singers & instrumentalists to this workshop: Medieval music has been enjoying a resurgence of interest over the last few decades and, to be palatable in the modern concert hall, has inevitably had to create some new performance practices. Belinda will lead sessions that transform the most minimal of manuscript material into a performance practice accessible to audiences today. She will cover, through practical sessions and discussion: • Improvisation – vocal and instrumental; • Minimal performance versus luxurious arrangement; • Instrumentation/orchestration; • Vocal techniques of the Balkans and Mediterranean.

'Authentic' medieval instruments are not necessary: string instruments and frame drums are welcome, as well as quiet wind instruments; brass and saxophones are not suitable in this context. This workshop is suitable for both beginner and experienced singers. The ability to sight read is not necessary – the material is as much taught by ear as from the page. Everyone will sing choruses (including instrumentalists) and there will be many opportunities for anyone wishing to work on solos - whether sung verses or free improvisations.

Belinda Sykes is an experienced workshop leader who studied traditional song in Morocco, Bulgaria, India, Hungary and the Middle East. She has a Master of Music (Ethnomusicology) from London University and trained as an oboist at The Guildhall School of Music. She has sung on many film and TV soundtracks, is Professor of Medieval Music at Trinity College of Music, and directs the medieval ensemble Joglaresa.

The bulk of this workshop will draw upon the *Cantigas de Santa Maria* (13th-century Spain) and the *Laude Spirituali* (14th-century Italy) because these songs are excellent vehicles for group participation as well as having solo opportunities. There will also be an opportunity to hear some of the material performed by Joglaresa in their IMC concert on 12 July. Participants will be able to obtain a discounted ticket for this (NB - see below & overleaf).

WHEN Sunday 11th July 2010 - 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm. Refreshments at breaks included

WHERE Kirkstall Room, Weetwood Hall, (University of Leeds): LS16 5PS. Weetwood Hall is located on A6120 Northern ring road, 4 miles from both Leeds/Bradford Airport and Leeds City Centre. Car parking is on site. More information on the International Mediaeval Congress can be found at: <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/index.html>

COST Workshop: £10; concessions £8 (state-only pensioners, unemployed); full time students £5.

NOW . . . Complete & return the booking the form below. Closing date: 19th June 2010. Send completed forms, with cheque payable to "NEEMF" to: Graham Coatman (NEEMF), 4 Sunny Bank, Shipley, West Yorkshire, BD18 3RP. (Enclose SAE if you require a receipt). More info/queries: chairman@neemf.org.uk or tel: 07979 866303



Belinda Sykes "Art of being a Medieval Musician" at IMC 11 July 2010 Application Form

Please return the completed form, with your cheque made payable to "NEEMF", to: Graham Coatman (NEEMF), 4 Sunny Bank, SHIPLEY, West Yorkshire, BD18 3RP by 19th June 2010

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____ Tel: _____

I wish to sing: Sop Alto Tenor Bass I wish to play _____ (grade: _____)

Please also tell us if you have any special requirements (eg large print copy, disabled access, etc):

I would like _____ (no) tickets for the concert at 9.00 pm Monday 12 July at Adel church (check prices overleaf)

I require an acknowledgement/receipt for which I enclose a stamped SAE (tick if you require this by post, not email)

I enclose a cheque (please make payable to `NEEMF') for £ _____

I am a member of the _____ Early Music Forum (NEEMF and/or others, if applicable)

Signed _____ Date _____

