

## **CA Song Camp Class Descriptions 2019**

### **The Tall Men Group - Master Class (Friday & Saturday morning)**

Jimmy Yessian and the members of the The Tall Men Group will discuss the process they go thru monthly at their meetings and share songs from their prompts. Jimmy will give a whole camp prompt on Friday morning (and also set up random co-writes with members of the band). On Saturday morning, Jimmy and Marty Axelrod will discuss writing funny songs and members will share funny songs they've written and their process for writing them. They will give a whole camp "funny song" writing prompt. Songwriters who write a new song to the prompts or from classes will perform on Sunday night at the "New Songs Only" Coffee House.

### **Helpful Hints For Your Song** - Jimmy Yessian

Jimmy will listen to your "in construction" song in class and give helpful hints and direction.

### **Loving Your Listener** - Marty Axelrod

Learning to write songs from the listener's point of view. Writing a song to get the listener's attention.

### **Song Starting** - Severin Browne

Get your songwriting engines warmed up and ready to go! The Song Starting class by Severin is full of new prompts every day to help you on your way to writing your first song, or your 100th. Never fear Severin is here!!

### **Performance Workshop** - Severin & Susan

Come & learn how to be your best singer/songwriter self on stage! Get pointers about preparation, mic and sound techniques, overcoming stage fright, playing to an audience, stage presence, they'll pass on all they've learned!!

### **Demo Recording with** - Ed Tree

Producer, engineer, and studio guitarist Ed Tree will be offering his services to campers for recording their song demos.

You'll be recording on Pro Tools. You will have the option of doing a simple song demo, or creating the basic track for a fully produced recording to be completed at Treehouse Recording in San Gabriel, CA.

The cost for recording at Ca Songwriting Camp (including any of Ed's services on guitar or bass) will be \$30 for a 75-minute session.

(CDs will be provided, but if you'd like the session data please bring a flash drive.)

**Playing Well With Others** - Ed Tree

Ever wanted to play in a band, or accompany someone on their song? In this class we'll explore techniques for playing along with other musicians. You don't have to be a virtuoso to contribute. Whatever your level of expertise and whatever instruments you play, we will look at some ways that you can play well with others. Let's make some music together and have some fun!!

**Start With a Title** - John Stowers

John will teach the art of writing the title of the song first and keeping on theme. Everyone will be given the same title and watch what happens!!

**Guitar Tune-up** - Mark Dann (1 day class)

Learn all about how to best care for your guitar, bring your guitar to get analyzed and we'll tune it up, see what it needs, and see how to make it sound better.

**Garageband 101 - DIY** - Mark Dann (1 day class)

Have a Mac? Then you already have a mini-recording studio right inside your computer. This "mini-course" is designed for non-techie songwriter-types, so that you can learn "just enough" and use it as a songwriting tool, for demos, or just for fun. Whether you use it as an at-home extension to a larger recording project, or just as a writing scratchpad, Garageband can be a valuable tool. Video tutorials are available to take home, so bring a flash drive if possible.

**Song Charts and Cheat Sheets** - Mark Dann (1 day class)

A lyric sheet with chords writing above it only works if you already know how the song goes. What if you need a chart to give to somebody else? Or even just so that you can remember how your own song goes? Learn from a master charter!!

**Vocal Care - Fitness, Toning, & Tuning with Troon** - Rebecca Troon

Warm It Up and Work It Out. Vocals with Troonie includes Toning, Harmony, discovering & opening your voice. "We'll raise the roof and let the birds out".

"Everything I know about singing , harmony, and toning I learned from Penny Nichols, Sloan Wainwright, and Florence Riggs". That pretty much sings it all.

**Alexander Technique For Performers** - Ruth Alpert

The Alexander Technique brings conscious awareness to the habitual ways in which we live in our bodies. Often we inhabit our bodies in ways that create the chronic problems of stiffness, pain, and eventual injury: how we crane our necks at the computer, how we hunch our shoulders at the steering wheel, how we stand at the kitchen counter. The Alexander Technique can guide you in bringing awareness to these unconscious patterns and help you to make new and more efficient choices.

Performers of all kinds have benefited from The Alexander Technique; in fact there are often Alexander teachers on the faculties of university music and drama departments. It is also very

useful for athletes, pilates and fitness clients and teachers, equestrians, bodyworkers, counselors, dentists.... anyone who wants to feel better about themselves and in themselves!

**Freestyle Flatfooting Workshop** - Ruth Alpert

Flatfooting, Buck Dancing and Clogging are related, but different styles, of foot percussion. Freestyle flatfooting is improvised, in which every dancer finds their own expression. I will start by teaching you some basic steps to get you going, and then we will focus on playing the tune with our feet!

No previous dance experience is necessary. No special equipment. Just shoes that can slide forward and back (ie, no sticky soles), and clothing you can sweat in! It's easy and fun and very aerobic!

**Beg. Mandolin & Mando Band** - Lisa Macker

Lisa Macker will teach beginning mandolin and basic skills. Bring your mandolin to camp and learn, and then be apart of the mando band & perform at Coffee House!!

**Mining For Gold Within** - Susan Marie Reeves

Going deep to into your emotions, and learning to write from a place of authenticity. Get out of your head and into your heart for your songs and lyrics. Find the gold in your writing through these group exercises and sharing.