**Ukulele Ceilidh Workshops 2019**

**(All workshops take place at the Liverpool Best Western)**

**Andrew Beazley Workshop**

**U Bass 101: Building basic bass lines, and what to do next!**

We’ll take three familiar songs in contrasting styles and learn how to create more interesting bass lines, beginning with a basic I - V pattern and layering rhythmic variation, arpeggios, passing tones, and runs. As well, we’ll explore finger patterns for common chords and “movable shapes” that’ll make changing keys a breeze. (We will have a few extra uke basses available if you would like to give it a try.)

**Beginner to Intermediate 90 minutes**

**J. Chalmers Doane Workshops**

**Axioms for Better Ukulele Playing: Part One**

**Ear Intellect: The art of Playing by ear.**

1. The significance of the Major Scale – how and why.
2. Practice – why and how.
3. The beginning of improvising.
4. Finger-Thumb Strum. **90 minutes**

**Axioms for Better Ukulele Playing: Part Two**

1. The significance of the Chromatic Scale in your uke playing – how and why.
2. Harmonics.
3. Left Hand Skills of Playing.
4. Finger-Thumb Strum – and a few others. **90 minutes**

**Jack n Jel Workshops** (Mark Jackson and Jane Jelbart)

**The Ceilidh Ukestra**

Be a part of the Ceilidh Ukestra where you’ll learn contemporary songs arranged into parts for an ukulele orchestra. The essence of an ukestra is to include all levels of ability, to stealth-teach music, to create an entertaining sound, and of course, to have fun. All levels of players, from new to advanced, are welcome because there are parts for everyone! You can play simple riffs, or take on a tricky part, or find a simple strum pattern. Oh and bring your vocal chords too! It’s so much fun!

**All Levels** **2 hours**

**One Song Sing**

This is a pop-up choir for everybody! We will get the whole festival singing one song, in three part harmony, to make a fantastic singing experience. The ***One Song Sing*** is based on our monthly event at home, which in turn is based on the phenomenally successful Choir! Choir! Choir! initiative in Toronto, Ontario. With the help of festival friends, the One Song Sing will be filmed to show your friends and family. Who doesn’t enjoy seeing themselves on video, particularly amongst a bunch of friends – because everyone loves singing with everyone else. No pressure, just great fun!

**All are welcome! 90 minutes**

**The Building Blocks of Improvisation – A Pentatonics Love-In With My Girl and Sunshine of Your Love**

These two songs (by Smokey Robinson, and Cream) are home base for starting (or building on) your improvisation journey on the uke. We learn the songs, but more importantly the riffs that drive them (p.s. they are scales). From here we have the basic tools to springboard into the basics of improvisation and learn some guidelines for how to create your own riffs. Fun and nostalgic, but also mightily empowering.

**Pre-requisites – Intermediate players, at least 1 – 2 years of playing. 90 minutes**

**Manitoba Hal Workshops** (Hal Brolund)

**Basic Blues for Beginners**

We begin with the fundamentals of the Blues. We’ll use the classic Kansas City as a template for structure and pacing of a 12 bar Blues song. Once we’ve mastered the basics, we’ll learn stops, and some tricks and tips to make the basics stand out. **Beginner to Intermediate 90 minutes**

**Fingerpicking the Blues**

We go over Elizabeth Cotton’s Freight train and learn them from soup to nuts. This song utilizes a fingerpicking approach and melody picking. It can be challenging but is easily learned with practice. These skills are transferable to any blues song! **Beginner to Intermediate 90 minutes**

**The Music of Robert Johnson**

We go over two of Robert Johnson’s classic songs, I Believe I’ll Dust My Broom and Stones in My Passway. These two songs use a combination of strumming and picking to take us through the blues progression. Players should be very comfortable with the keys of A and F and picking of melody lines in conjunction with strumming.

**Intermediate 90 minutes**

**Mike Diabo Workshops**

**Uking the Blues**

* Learn how to play the blues featuring 12 bar Blues (in all keys), common chords, soloing, strumming and feel.
* Be able to sit in at any Blues jam! (e.g. Sweet Home Chicago, Ukulele Blues)

**All Levels 90 minutes**

**Jazz/Swing Ukulele I - all tunings**

* Learn the techniques of Jazz/Swing ukulele including strumming styles, chord shapes, and common progressions
* Students taught using a simple Jazz standard

**All Levels 90 minutes**

**Stuart Fuchs Workshops**

**The Life & Times of Chuck Berry: Rock n’ Roll for Ukulele**

Learn the stylistic nuances of Rock n’ Roll on your Uke! We’ll play lots of fun and easy songs from the Father of Rock n’ Roll, Chuck Berry. By exploring songs from Chuck’s deep catalogue and applying Stu’s “Uke-a-billy” method, you’ll give your ukulele playing that classic Rock n’ Roll style and edge.

You’ll learn new rhythms, melodic licks that can be used to solo, and learn to improve your ability to strum and sing at the same time. In addition, you’ll gain an insight into the creative ways Chuck Berry weaves storytelling and rhythm & blues that helped to create the style of Rock n’ Roll music.

*“If you tried to give Rock n’ Roll another name, you might call it ‘Chuck Berry’”* – John Lennon.

**Open to all Levels of Player, Beginner to Advanced 90 minutes”**

**“All You Need is Love . . . and a Ukulele – A Beatles Immersion**

Do You Love the Ukulele? Do you love the music of the Beatles? Then this is the event for you.

The music of the Beatles and the ukulele work so well together. Is it that John Lennon played a ukulele? Perhaps it’s because George Harrison often kept his car’s trunk full of ukes so he’d be prepared for a spontaneous uke jam with friends! Whatever the reason, it’s clear that the music of the Fab Four fits perfectly into the fab four strings of the ukulele.

Over the course of this fun workshop, you’ll be led through an immersion into the music of the Fab Four. By studying the music of the Beatles, you’ll gain an understanding of many genres of music including blues, rockabilly, RnB, Soul and their own original style of song writing.

You’ll play Beatles’ tunes from the band’s early and late period with easy-to-play ukulele band arrangements, with different parts to accommodate all levels of playing ability. You’ll learn famous riffs and melodies from this legendary band. **This workshop is open to Advanced Beginners and Up 90 minutes**

**“Caribbean Styles for Uke: Grooves From the Heart”**

The music of the Caribbean is a GREAT way to solidify and refine the basics of Ukulele strumming while exploring new syncopated rhythmic terrain. Award-winning ukulele teaching artist, Stu Fuchs will show you how to play the joyful Caribbean grooves of Ska, Reggae, Rocksteady and Calypso.

This workshop is all about learning how to groove better – You’ll learn lots of fun and uplifting songs, new syncopated rhythms & strums, melodic riffs, and great practice tips from a master teacher that will help you improve your rhythm and coordination.

Stu’s fun, caring and holistic teaching style of “Ukulele Zen” make his workshops a not-to-be missed experience. You’ll come away with new skills and powerful practice tips to help deepen your music journey.

Be prepared to have a blast getting into the groove!

**Open to all Levels of Player, Beginner to Advanced. 90 minutes**