Comhaltas Winnipeg School of Irish Music

14 October 2020

A note to students from Susan



Hello folks! I do hope you and your loved ones are keeping safe and well during these difficult times. As you know, due to the health concerns and restrictions caused by this pandemic, in-person Irish Music classes and lessons are temporarily postponed. However, some students have expressed an interest in continuing their learning virtually until regular classes can resume. So here is a suggestion. Let me know what you think of this, and also please feel free to contribute ideas of your own.

SUGGESTED LEARNING PLAN:

A series of lesson plans will be sent out over the next few weeks for registered students who are interested in expanding their Irish Music repertoire and musical skills. Every two weeks I will send out a new tune. Included will be:

- A printed sheet of the music, with letter names and or whistle tab/fingering
- Two recordings of me playing the tune (one at moderate tempo and one slowly phrase-byphrase). Plus background information on the tune
- Links to commercial recordings or videos of the tune to hear different musicians' interpretations
- A recording demonstrating possible ornamentation and variations that could be added once the basic tune has been mastered, for anyone wanting more of a challenge.
- Extra help in learning the tunes for anyone who asks.

NOTE: Two different levels of learning plans will be available, so students can sign up for **Level 1** (slower tunes, waltzes, planxties, polkas, etc) or **Level 2** (jigs, reels etc) or for an extra challenge you can sign up for both levels and learn more tunes!

Students work at their own speed and can choose to learn or not learn any of the tunes. However, in **Level 2**, tunes will be taught in sets of two, meaning tunes 1 & 2 will work as a set, tunes 3 & 4 will work as a set etc. This means a set of 2 tunes per month (one every 2 weeks). All of these tunes will be common Irish session tunes, but may not be played regularly at the Slow Session, or Thursday Session. This is a chance to introduce some new tunes to local sessions, and also to learn tunes commonly found in Irish sessions outside of Winnipeg so you can join in an Irish Session anywhere.

NOTE: This would be free of charge to all CCE Winnipeg Irish Music School students who registered for the 2019-2020 year, and anyone else who would like to participate.

I will set up a new email list for anyone wishing to sign up for this Irish Music Learning Plan. Email me if you have questions, and/or if you are interested in signing up.

Thanks

Susan Email: HammersMusic@gmail.com



A NOTE TO PAUL'S PRIVATE MUSIC STUDENTS: Paul won't be giving regular private lessons this term, but will be available to keep in touch with his students through occasional Skype lessons, once a month. Tuition for these lessons will be the same as last term \$20/half hour payable to Comhaltas Winnipeg. If interested email Paul and he will schedule and send info on payment arrangements. You can email Paul at phpauleo@gmail.com