



Weekend Vocal Workout Factsheet

7-9 July 2017

Deadline for Applications: Friday 12th May 2017

This factsheet contains full information about the twelfth Weekend Vocal Workout to be held at the Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1 5HT from the 7-9 July 2017.

Outline Schedule

Friday 7 July 5.00pm-8.30pm

Welcome and introduction by course leader Mary King

This session will focus on getting to know each other – via musical and dramatic “icebreaker” exercises to enhance co-operative and collaborative skills and to get musical creative juices flowing. Wear something you can move comfortably in. We will also have a preliminary rehearsal for the material we are going to stage for the performance later in the weekend.

Saturday 8 July 10.00am-8.00pm

Morning: Warm-up

The group will have a vocal warm-up followed by another rehearsal for the staged performance on Sunday.

Morning/Afternoon: Musical ‘taster’ workshops – Musical Theatre, Gospel, Rock & Pop and Jazz

Over the weekend, each participant will experience all four styles of music, in practical hands-on workshops led by charismatic and experienced vocal leaders. Some music will be learnt by ear, and some from printed notation: the tutors will cater for all participants, whatever their experience. The focus of all these taster workshops is to develop an awareness of appropriate vocal and musical styles and to learn to apply them sensitively.

Evening: Vocal Masterclass

All participants will have an opportunity to perform in a masterclass led by one of our professional vocal coaches. The group will be divided into four, and so each masterclass will have 9 people in it. Each participant will perform a song of their own choice with piano accompaniment (an accompanist will be provided*). They should know this song from memory, and have it to performance standard.

Sunday 9 July 10.00am-8.00pm

Morning: Vocal and Pilates warm-up sessions

Musical ‘taster’ workshops – Musical Theatre, Gospel, Rock & Pop and Jazz

(as Saturday) - the other two styles

Afternoon: Professional Q&A session

This session will be an opportunity for participants to ask questions about any aspects of embarking on a singing career. Subjects might include: audition repertoire; the differences between musical theatre and classical singing courses; the advantages and disadvantages of private training versus the Conservatoire experience; training in contemporary and jazz disciplines; undergraduate and post-graduate studies.

Afternoon: Rehearsal for final performance

6.30pm: Final performance/presentation

This is a chance for participant’s friends and family to have a little taste of the weekend. We will demonstrate exercises (including a mini-masterclass), share some of the solos and then perform some of the group material learned through the weekend.

* If you want to sing pop or rock material, you may bring a backing track (on CD or MP3 player). Please let us know in advance.

The Price

The cost of the weekend is **£120**. This will be payable in advance of the course when your place has been confirmed. Bursaries are available to those who have difficulty meeting the cost of the weekend (see FAQ, below).

Application Process

Complete the **online application form** at www.ram.ac.uk/vocalworkout. You will need to upload a short (3-5 minutes' duration) **recording** of you singing as well as a recent **headshot photo** of yourself. The recording must contain a brief verbal introduction, containing:

- 1) Your name
- 2) The date the recording was made
- 3) The composer and title of the piece you are singing

Don't worry too much about the quality of the recording; this is just for us to get an idea of your voice and the type of music you like to sing. Please do not send recordings of yourself singing with others (e.g. duets); your voice must be the only one on the recording.

The audio recording should be uploaded to the online form as an MP3, WAV or AIFF file. Photos should ideally be in the form of headshots in portrait orientation. It is helpful if the files can include your name in the filename. If you are unable to upload your files online please complete the rest of the application form as directed and email the remaining material to vocalworkout@ram.ac.uk. Alternatively, please post your audio CD and photo to Weekend Vocal Workout, Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1 5HT (all postal submissions must be clearly marked with your name).

Application Deadline: Friday 12th May 2017

Successful candidates will be notified in late May.

Available places: 36

Private Vocal Consultations with Mary King

On the 10th July Mary King will be offering one-to-one vocal consultations to any participant who has attended the weekend. This will incur an additional fee of £20 (payable at registration on Friday 7th July). Consultations will last 20 minutes. Please indicate your interest on the application form.

Frequently-asked Questions

What kind of people are you looking for?

We are looking for people who will be prepared to work hard for the whole weekend. The weekend will be stimulating but also very intensive and participants should have the stamina to take advantage of what's on offer. Please note that participants must be available for **all** sessions.

Do I need to be able to read music?

No. There will be music provided during the weekend, but we aim to be accessible to those who are not familiar with musical notation.

Do I have to be classically trained?

No! We welcome students from all musical backgrounds. It is our intention to explore a wide variety of musical styles during the weekend. The group will sometimes work together, and sometimes in smaller groups. As well as the different styles of the taster workshops, our masterclass leaders have a wide variety of experience of all musical styles. Students should be curious to explore many musical styles.

Are there any age limits?

The minimum age is 16 – there is no upper age limit. Previous courses have benefited from a wide variety of all ages and backgrounds, with the majority of participants being in their early 20s.

Are there any bursaries available?

There are a few bursaries available for those who are unable to meet the cost of the course. If you would like to apply for a bursary please send us a brief statement outlining your reasons for requesting a bursary (via email or post to the address below, by the application deadline of 12th May).

I have taken part in the Weekend Vocal Workout before. Can I take part again?

If you have taken part in the weekend before, you are welcome to apply, however preference will be given to people who have not previously attended.

Do you offer any accommodation at the Academy?

We cannot arrange any accommodation for you at the Academy. However, the University of London does offer summer accommodation, and the Youth Hostel Association has a hostel nearby. Please follow the links below:

<http://www.halls.london.ac.uk/>

<http://www.yha.org.uk/>

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