

***Dolçaina* workshop: an introduction to Valencian folklore**

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DESCRIPTION

According to UNESCO, traditional music is defined as follows: "Traditional music across the world comprises the musical forms in all cultures which contribute to safeguarding and revitalising intangible cultural heritage. Although music is a universal language, it appears in various forms and on different occasions in each society. Traditional music is an important part of the folklore of each community, and the cultural promotion involving other musical forms has been essential in creating today's popular music."

Valencian traditional music has enjoyed a revival in the region since the 1980s thanks to an instrument: **the *dolçaina***. While it is true that the music played by the bands from our towns and cities has been present in our lives, the *dolçaina* is part of a kind of traditional music which has only been kept alive thanks to festivities and celebrations in very few towns.

In this workshop, students will gain musical knowledge, learn the technique and play the *dolçaina* and various traditional pieces from Valencian folklore.

OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The learning outcomes will be as follows:

- Linking theory (knowledge of musical language) and practice (*dolçaina* playing), gradually advancing from the established level.
- Having the correct body position when playing the *dolçaina*, i.e. a natural position, avoiding wrong positions.
- Using the air pressure produced from the diaphragm for correct sound emission, articulation and tuning.
- Controlling the muscles for proper embouchure, with no tension.
- Learning the parts of the *dolçaina* and how to maintain them.
- Learning *dolçaina* fingering and applying the pressure needed for each sound.
- Training students' ear for music in connection with the sound, register and timbre of the *dolçaina*.
- Exploring the possibilities offered by the instrument's sound at each learning level.
- Understanding and playing the expressive features in each piece.
- Understanding the articulation required in each piece.

SPECIFIC CONTENTS

- Sound production. Tuning, sound quality, development of facial muscles and lip flexibility through technical exercises to improve fingering and breathing:
 - o Scales and arpeggios.
 - o Sustained notes.
 - o Intervals.
 - o Practice of articulation and attacks.
 - o Vibrato exercises.
 - o Respiratory tract exercises.
- Playing a repertoire, adapting the level of difficulty to the students' level.
- Learning about different types of traditional Valencian dances.
- Need to practise with other students to:
 - o Improve tuning and rhythmical precision.
 - o Listen to other voices and adapt to the band so there is a balance.
 - o Become part or be in charge of a band.

BENEFITS OF LEARNING TO PLAY THE *DOLÇAINA*

By learning to play the *dolçaina*, students primarily develop their hearing sensitivity, which is essential to sound quality.

They will also develop their technique, explore the possibilities offered by the instruments in terms of sound and expression, and gradually improve sound quality.

Moreover, students should gain autonomy regarding aspects such as articulation, phrasing, fingering or vibrato, depending on what is required in each piece.

Ultimately, students should value and understand Valencian traditional music and our rich cultural heritage. To that end, they will learn about one of our most typical instruments: technique, origin, popular musicians and their relevance in rural and urban areas throughout the Valencia Region.

PROGRAMME

1 INTRODUCTION TO THE DOLÇAINA

- Origins of the instrument.
- Parts.
- Material and making.
- Importance of the reed.

2 FIRST STEPS TO PLAY THE DOLÇAINA

- Correct body position.
- Basic sound production.
- Embouchure.

3 BASIC CONCEPTS OF MUSICAL LANGUAGE

- Note values (crotchet, minim, quaver, etc.).
- Notes (C, D, E, etc.).
- Measure and control of each exercise and piece.

4 DISCOVERING POPULAR MUSIC

- Types of musical genres (dances, *jotas*, *cercaviles*, popular songs, etc.).
- Origin of each musical theme.
- Understanding the meaning of each of the pieces played.

MATERIAL STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE TO THE WORKSHOP

- *Dolçaina*, reed and bocal (approximate price: €40).
- *Estudiant la Dolçaina* vol. 1 Ed. Impromptu.

ASSESSMENT

Students must attend at least 80% of total course hours. The knowledge acquired will be assessed in all sessions.

TARGETED AT:

Students with or without previous musical knowledge and interested in music.

HOUR BREAKDOWN

- From 15 October to 17 December 2018
- Mondays from 3.30 to 5 p.m.
- 10 sessions
- 15 hours
- 15 ESI hours

- 15, 22 and 29 October
- 5, 12, 19 and 26 November
- 3, 10 and 17 December

VENUE: Salvador Allende Room (Auditorium patio)

PLEASE NOTE

IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE COURSE CERTIFICATE, STUDENTS MUST:

*ATTEND AT LEAST 80% OF TOTAL COURSE HOURS

*HAVE PAID FOR COURSE FEES

*PASS LECTURER'S ASSESSMENT TEST

*COMPLETE COURSE SATISFACTION SURVEY
