



THE ECLIPSE SONG CRAFT ACADEMY

2015 Courses & Services

"Serving the song creators of tomorrow."

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Following the success of our lyric writing master class last fall, Eclipse is pleased to announce the launch of two new courses – one of them open to relative beginners & others keen to find out if they have the potential to write songs - and a second, more advanced course geared to those more experienced musos – perhaps gigging musicians – who seek to raise their game as song crafters & to produce a more professional output. Our primary focus will be on the skills involved in lyric writing but critique of composition will also be available.

Course Structure

Both 8 week course modules will comprise the following components:

- 1: Two interactive training seminars (2 hours each)
- 2: Two sessions of individually tailored & tutored homework
- 3: Two song writing workshops (2 hours each)

Additionally included, each participant of either course will be given the bonus opportunity to have one of their own songs critiqued and/or given creative input by Tim – to either polish or enhance an existing song, or even to co-write a new one from scratch!

Start Dates

Course 1:01 starts Wednesday May 27th – completes week ending July 24th

Course 2:01 starts Wednesday June 3rd – completes week ending July 31st

Course 1:01

This is a broad based introduction to the craft that will cover all the basics needed to get people started along the path to writing their own fresh & original songs.

It doesn't matter how limited your experience is so long as you have the desire & aptitude to learn. You will be given a grounding in rhyming patterns, verse structure, song hooks and genre. Basic musicianship and a love of language should be all you require to successfully complete this course module.

Course 2:01

This more advanced course module is aimed primarily at gigging musicians or enthusiasts who simply wish to acquire further mastery of the process of song writing, this module will feature creative technique, originality, self-editing and the ability critique your own output.

This course will also focus on how to generate (and recognize) song hooks – those startling and remarkable elements that can lift a song from being okay to good, good to brilliant or brilliant to immortal. Everyone will get a good grounding in the “Old Grey Whistle Test” approach and learn to apply its inspiration to their own work.

About The Instructor

When Tim Daly first met the “mad professor” **Dave Stewart** in the early 70s, he had already carved a niche for himself in England as a political poet. Dave suggested he try song lyrics instead and the two became fast friends, and busy co-writers of several hundred songs, whose ‘party trick’ was to write up to five brand new songs at one sitting. Dave went on to form the bands **The Tourists** and (with Annie Lennox) **Eurythmics** and when he decided to form his own music publishing company, **Anxious Music**, he asked Tim to be its First Signing. Tim’s reputation for tackling impossible problems was enhanced by his first gig – to write lyrics for **Feargal Sharkey’s** first solo album. When Billboard later reviewed the eponymous LP, they featured the true story of how one of its lyrics – that of “Bitter Man” was based on a lyric given in real time during a phone call! When **Hugh Masekela** needed help to complete his tribute song “Bring Him Back Home (Nelson Mandela)” he turned to Tim, and the song – which went on to become an international hit – still considered a standard by many – was completed in less than an hour.

Tim’s natural skills as a collaborator who could “raise the game” of everyone he worked with soon became known, and so he was the “go to” guy when the English band **Pink Floyd** wanted to produce an album with lyrics not written by Roger Waters. Three months of closely working with the guitar genius **David Gilmour** in London, followed by another three in Los Angeles, led to “Momentary Lapse of Reason” becoming one of the bestselling of all Pink Floyd albums. As Tim’s rep as a “lyric doctor” became better known, he was invited to work all over Europe – such as the **Humpe Sisters** in Berlin, **Renaud Sechan** in Paris and Italy’s own **Gianna Nannini**, and when **Henry Mancini** was looking for a lyricist to provide libretto for his Glass Menagerie theme, he looked no further than Tim – who penned him the lyric called “Falling Fine.”

“Tim Daly is the go-to man for song lyrics. Thus, his thoughtful, sensitive and inspired words have graced many an album by some of the best-known names of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. His lyrics are not only inspired but inspirational: they bring out the best of human emotions and once made me cry. I have huge time for Tim, as a writer and as a person.”