

**Piano Pathways CPD at Cambridge Suzuki Young Musicians (CSYM) Summer School  
Cambridge, July 22-27, 2017**

**Musical Director:** Stephen Power

**Open to:**

a/ Suzuki teachers from anywhere in the world who have completed their training

b/ ESA teachers level 1-5 who are not currently enrolled on a Suzuki teacher training course

Please note that to take part in this course teachers have to be current members of the ESA, SAA, or similar regional organisation.

**The children's workshop:** Each year for our students at Cambridge Suzuki Young Musicians (CSYM), we organise a long established Summer school for students and parents (with a mixture of Suzuki and non-Suzuki faculty), at several levels, running from beginner to diploma standard, ages 4-18. At the advanced level the workshop is open to Suzuki and non-Suzuki pupils who are not part of CSYM.

Observation of selected classes during the children's workshop form the basis of the CDP course, alongside specific sessions just for teachers.

**The pathway during the 6 day course** will have a twin focus, the teaching of non-Suzuki supplementary repertoire to Intermediate and advanced level using both solo piano repertoire, and chamber music for violin and piano, and viola and piano. This will be accomplished through observing masterclasses given to our students, and through discussion. The second focus will be on the use of the multi-piano medium for improving basics in teaching beginning book one and two students.

**Masterclasses:**

On Saturday 22 July the distinguished Hungarian pianist Peter Nagy will give a day of masterclasses on solo and duet repertoire, mostly outside of the Suzuki repertoire. .

On Sunday Professor Nagy will give a day of duo and trio masterclasses (mainly violin and piano), featuring music from Hungary, Spain, and France.

These masterclasses with Peter Nagy (who is not a Suzuki teacher!), will be followed by sessions for teachers discussing how to incorporate some of this, or other supplementary repertoire, in their student's course of study, alongside the core Suzuki repertoire.

**Multi-Piano:**

From Monday to Thursday at the Faculty of Music, there will be four grand pianos on stage in the Concert hall where the children will receive coaching from Caroline Gowers, & Betty and

Stephen Power, on book 1 and 2 unison repertoire. A very direct and concise way of teaching, it forms the basis of observation sessions for CPD teachers, with a focus on the basics of piano playing, tone production, & practice techniques, and how these build over a three-day period leading up to the final performance on Thursday afternoon. This will be of most relevance to teachers keen on improving their teaching of the beginning stages, whether they intend to create multi-piano performances, or in their day-to-day teaching.. Through observing the concerts and lessons with the intermediate and advanced students, teachers can experience the musical progression from the beginning stages. .

The course ends with the final concert which brings together the Chamber music performances from the advanced students, and the multi-piano performances from the book 1 and 2 children, which, among other benefits, I consider as a preparation for later chamber music. There will also be a composition concert and other concerts to observe that demonstrate the playing level, listening skills, and creativity of the students.

Dr. Suzuki long wanted piano teachers to adopt the multi-piano concept and from the late 1980's in Japan a number of teachers around the country began to put on 10 piano concerts using full size concert grands, including those led by Dr. Kataoka in Matsumoto. CSYM are pioneers of the multi-piano format in Europe as an educational and performance vehicle using grand pianos. Starting with the first 4-piano Suzuki concert in Europe in 1991 (shared with Caroline Gowers and her students), until today, we have created many 4-piano and 3-piano concerts and workshops, as well as in the past commissioning music from British composers Graham Fitkin and Colin Matthews for the 4-piano medium.

### **The tradition of teacher-training at the CSYM Summer School**

For 20 years teachers have been coming to our Summer school to observe, travelling from Canada, Finland, Holland, Japan, Spain, Sweden, and the UK. last year we had our first teacher from Argentina on the CPD course, who wrote to us after the 2016 Summer school to say " My time with you, has been fantastic! I hope to go to Cambridge again."

We hope that this workshop will provide a forum for questions about teaching, and discussion amongst the teachers involved, and a chance for self-reflection.

### **The wider CSYM curriculum**

We are one of the longest established Suzuki piano schools in Europe, founded in 1982, and one of the few to have pupils from beginning through to and advanced level. Over several decades our approach to Suzuki has developed, with Suzuki principles of education sharing a place alongside Kodaly central to what we do since 1992. Our main aim is to foster well rounded musicians for the 21st century based on an innovative curriculum. This aim can be seen in the musical disciplines that the children follow at the workshop, figured bass, composition, chamber music with strings (and sometimes wind as well), introduction to the harpsichord etc. as well as the repertoire chosen for the students.

Each workshop has a theme, and this year as well as continuing with the study of music by Bartok and Kurtag, which was the theme from last year, our musical attention

turns to the music of Spain and France. We will explore music from the Baroque, 20th century, and 21st centuries. The study and performance of contemporary music is one of the strengths of our programme and our pupils have been 1st prizewinners at International competitions for 20th and 21st century music in France and Switzerland . CPD teachers will be able to experience the results of this enriched curriculum through attending the concerts and the masterclasses spread throughout the 6 day, but most especially during the last day, which functions as a concert day.

**Please note** that some parts of the children's course are not open to observers, and as this is a Suzuki CPD course in order to get the CPD ESA certificate of attendance teachers have to follow the path outlined. The hours of observation must be a minimum of 20 under ESA rules.

**Individual timetables** will be e-mailed out by July 1st with the pathway outlined as to which classes to observe, concerts to watch, talks to attend etc.

**Venues:** Murray Edwards College, and the Faculty of Music, 11 West Road.

**Schedule:** Classes run approx. from 9.00 to 4.00 each day, with Thursday being given over largely to concerts, and featuring the talk for parents by Caroline Gowers.

**Accommodation:** This is a non residential workshop. We recommend that teachers contact the nearby colleges of Newnham, Selwyn, Clare hall, and particularly Robinson, and request a B&B room with a piano so that you can practice, as there are no practice facilities at the Faculty of Music.

**Meals:** Meals, drinks and snacks can be bought at the ARC cafe or the Buttery which is 2 mins. Walk away from West Road.

**Travel:** Stansted is the nearest London airport for Cambridge, which is just a 30 min. train ride away.

**ESA Suzuki teacher trainers** Stephen Power and Caroline Gowers will be the main tutors, alongside 'Talent Education Research Institute' Graduate Betty Power (one of only four piano Graduates from Dr. Suzuki's school now teaching in Europe) . A unique side to this course is that all three tutors went to the source of Suzuki education and studied in Matsumoto with Dr. Suzuki and Dr. Kataoka during the 1980's.

**Children's Workshop Faculty:** Charlotte Bray (composition), Henrietta Hill (viola/chamber music), Rose Hinton (violin/chamber music), Caroline Gowers (piano), Richard Gowers (Harpsichord), Chloe Martindale (Figured bass), Peter Nagy (piano and chamber music masterclasses), Betty Power (Kodaly and piano), Stephen Power (piano), Hilary Sturt (violin/chamber music).

**Fee:** £400

Teachers can also request a 30 min lesson on Suzuki repertoire the cost of which is £35.

**Cambridge:** is a very, very, popular tourist destination, and we advise early application, not only to help us plan, but also so that you can book your accommodation in good time.

**Application process:** Please e-mail Stephen Power [info@suzukipianocambridge.org.uk](mailto:info@suzukipianocambridge.org.uk)  
Include something about yourself and your previous Suzuki training, and what you would hope to get out of the course, as well as which association (ESA, SAA, etc), you are currently a member of.