



TAMULEVICH
ARTIST MANAGEMENT
— *We Build Careers* —

WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Offered by Jones and Watroba

Celebrating Cultural Diversity

- Illustrating the common links in American Folk and Popular Music such as the use of the minor pentatonic (blues scale), the 12 bar blues structure and the folk process.
- Introduction of key American historical music figures, and pointing out places where their music has intersected with African American, Native American and Latino musical influences.
- Demonstrate shared themes found in American Roots music.
- Illustrating how a shared American folk culture has worked to produce shared themes in modern popular music.

Songs of Freedom and Struggle

- Demonstrate how early American music, particularly the spiritual, was used as a weapon of change in the both the ante and post bellum South.
- Demonstrate how these and other songs were modified for use in early labor protests and union struggles.
- Illustrate how songwriters were able to adapt familiar melodies and themes into songs of protest and music for political change.
- Introduce students to the music of essential American folk artists in the history of American Protest such as Woody Guthrie, Leadbelly, Josh White, Guy Carawan, and others.
- To demonstrate how this music has been continuously changed to address issues as diverse as the American Civil Rights movement, Vietnam War, Labor struggles and Women's Rights.

Music Improvisation

- A workshop designed to show the improvisational genius that underpins American Folk and Roots music.
- How artists can use tools such as the 12 bar blues structure, call and response, chord substitution and the use of different scales to unlock new ways of addressing familiar melodies.
- To demonstrate how even classically trained musicians have benefited by listening and improvising on traditional folk melodies.
- Providing information on how to find available resources of American Roots music both in recordings and on-line.
- To explore the idea of the “blues aesthetic”, the “country aesthetic” and the “folk aesthetic”. What are the stylistic characteristics that distinguish these very similar styles of American Roots music?

Educational Drama and Process Learning

Both Robert and Matt are trained in a skill called “Educational Drama”. This is a skill of process learning by which students can learn intuitively and experientially through role-play. Robert and Matt were, for a number of years, both members of an outreach program hosted by the Detroit Historical Museum, called Storyliving, that used educational drama to teach students about such historical subjects as the Underground Railroad in 1850, The Great Auto Migration of 1912, The Fisk University Sit-ins of the 1960s, and Detroit’s Great Fire of 1805. Almost any subject can be addressed through Educational Drama however, including Workplace Diversity and Conflict Resolution.

Creativity and the Art of Songwriting

Both Robert and Matt are skilled songwriters and are also students of the craft. Therefore, they are able to talk and to share with students who are interested in the use of verse many of strategies that great writers have utilized throughout history. Among issues addressed is—

- The importance and use of vocabulary when writing in verse.
- The use of imagery, metaphor, simile and allusion in songwriting and in poetry.
- The purpose and the use of rhyme.
- How to use existing and familiar melodies as a bridge to new songs.
- Songwriters that everyone should know but that many people don’t.
- How the folk process helps to edit songs and verse.
- The “do’s” and “don’ts” of writing for various styles or genres of folk music.

The Art of Storytelling (Robert)

Storytelling is one of the oldest and most treasured skills in the world. In spite of all of wonderful technology available to us, we still rely on the ancient techniques of storytelling to explore and explain some of the most complex questions of life. Every community, family and person has a story worth telling, but how do we learn to fashion and present a story? Well, Robert Jones is one of the premier storytellers in the country.

He has been featured a number of times at storytelling venues and festivals, including the prestigious National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, TN.

Robert teaches workshop participants skills such as—

- Framing a story, learning how to tell a story within a context that will make it compelling and interesting.
- Learning how to structure a story for dramatic or humorous effect.
- Learning how to make a traditional story personal.
- Learning how to build a family story into one that is appealing to a general audience.
- The effective use of music and sound effects in storytelling.
- How to tell stories for children and adults.

The Blues, America's Music (Robert)

This is a program that showcases the history and aesthetic of the Blues music from its start, just before the 20th Century, right up until the present. We will explore various regional styles of blues music (including Mississippi Delta blues, Texas blues, Blues in the Carolinas, and both pre war and post war urban blues styles). We will also talk about essential figures in blues history such as Blind Lemon Jefferson, Charley Patton, Son House, Rev. Gary Davis, Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters, Bessie Smith, and others. Program also includes a select discography of the artists who have helped to shape the history American Blues music.

American Folk Music, A History and Overview (Matt)

This is a program that is designed to showcase those essential American voices and styles that are at the foundation of American Folk Music. Beginning with the immigrant folk music of Europe, coming through the songs of America's first recognized singer-songwriter, Stephen Foster, leading to the likes of Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Bob Dylan, and other icons of 20th Century American folk music, Matt will take his audience on an educational and entertaining journey.

Whether it's Country-Western, Ballads, Political, Labor song, Protest music or Romantic song, folk music is the music of the American people and it has much to teach us about our history and ourselves.

The Art Of Community Singing (Matt)

Singing helps to build community and it allows us to feel the concerns and the joys of the "other". When it comes to the art of leading people in act of singing no one does it better than Matt Watroba, and very few do it as well as he does. Drawing on the influence of the late, great Pete Seeger, and on his own experience as a professional singer and musician of more than 30 years, Matt is wonderfully gifted at getting people who have never even thought about group singing to raise their voices in song.

Matt has led singing groups in places as welcoming as a living room and as challenging as the Federal Prison in Milan, MI . Matt discovered early in his performance career that nothing really opens the heart like the ability of a group to express its inner song. All it takes is a group of people and a circle of chairs, let Matt and the songs do the rest.
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