

## Gigging - The Hows, Whats, and Whys!

We are all missing playing publicly during the pandemic, but what if you never have or don't have much experience? In this stream, we will talk about how to be best prepared for live music gigs whether they are background music or a concert performance. What should you be sure to bring both physically (gear) and mentally (confidence?!) What music should you and can you play, and how much? Why is playing publicly beneficial to us as players? All of these questions will be answered and then some as we cover the basic ins and outs of gigging.

### I. Overview

#### A. Introduction

1. My experiences gigging, why I am only talking about my specific gear/procedures

#### B. Table of contents

### II. Why perform publicly?

1. Income
2. Playing experience
3. Meeting new people
4. Sharing is an important act of musicking

### III. Where to perform?

#### A. Background music gigs

1. Restaurants
2. Hospitals
3. Airports
4. Libraries
5. Weddings
6. Funerals
7. Birthdays
8. Fundraising events
9. Art galleries
10. Holiday parties
11. Schools

#### B. High-pressure performances

1. Concerts/Recitals
2. Auditions

### IV. What are the main essentials?

#### A. Contracts

1. Show mine for example
2. Payment

#### B. Equipment

1. Cart! Cart! Cart!
2. Music Stand/Foot stool/nail stuff
3. Instrument
  - a) Acoustic vs. plug-in

4. Sound
  - a) Speaker
    - (1) Bose S1 Pro
    - (2) Fishman
  - b) Microphone
    - (1) Battery powered condenser mic - C1000Smk4
    - (2) Mic stand
    - (3) Cable
    - (4) SPARE BATTERIES!
5. Lighting
  - a) Reading lights
6. Supplies
  - a) Water bottle
  - b) Snax
  - c) Sweater
  - d) Advil
  - e) Tip jar!
    - (1) E-tipping
    - (2) Business cards
  - f) Extension cord
7. Breaks!
  - a) 10 minutes per hour is standard
  - b) Always make sure you have a watchdog for your stuff
  - c) Walk around to loosen things up
- C. Post-gig
  1. Drink lots of water!
  2. Eat fruits for your muscles
  3. Use a protein shake before or after your gig
- V. What music do I play?!
  - A. Options
    1. Etudes
    2. Short pieces
    3. Pop/other arrangements
    4. Improvisation
    5. Concert pieces (caution!)
    6. Event appropriate music
  - B. What if I don't have enough music?
    1. Trust me, you do and people don't notice
    2. Insert many repeats, improvise on the music, change arpeggio directions (put a capo on!)
    3. If you can, talk to your audience
    4. Share gigs with another person, share solo and duo if workload is heavy
  - C. Sheet music vs. iPad

1. iPad pedal
2. Looking up music on the fly

#### VI. Common Issues/perks

- A. Payment
- B. Space/lighting
- C. Noise
- D. Outlets
- E. Bad seating
- F. Free food and drinks
- G. Drunk attendees
- H. Mean or patronizing people
- I. Connections
- J. Don't overstay your welcome!
- K. Cancellations
- L. Weather changes
- M. Be friends with the other workers, trust me!

#### VII.Q&A



## The Shearer Method - Modern Pedagogy with a Legacy

Hey everyone, Ashley Lucero here!

When I was an undergraduate music major I developed some hand and arm pain that prevented me from playing. By the time my sophomore recital was due, I hadn't practiced in *2 years* and only had months to learn and memorize 30 minutes of brand new music. I had to learn FAST!

This is where Aaron Shearer comes into play: my teacher at the time, composer and guitarist Matthew Dunne, was a student of Shearer's and experienced teacher of his method. He had me learning simple Shearer/Hurst studies through solfeggio and visualization without the guitar in hand, just as Shearer would have taught me himself. Through these exercises I learned "how to learn" and I was able to pick up new music quickly enough to play a successful sophomore recital including works by Brouwer, Torroba, Sor, myself, and Bach!

In this stream we'll take an in-depth look at Aaron Shearer's method books "Learning the Classic Guitar" volumes 1 and 2 to better understand the great benefits of true concentration and focus through extremely simple steps. These skills are meant to aid you in learning music more efficiently, the evasion of confusion and error which cause the development of bad habits, faster memorization skills, better performance skills, get rid of memory slips, and building a healthy technique in both your hands.

I swear my career as a classical guitarist on this method, so won't you come learn how to learn?