

Svitanya

Eastern European Women's Vocal Ensemble

WORKSHOP and RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

“Singing Workshop” – *introductory vocal session*

Participants will experience the pleasure of singing folks songs from Eastern Europe and will also receive an introduction to the cultures from which the songs originate. Members of Svitanya will lead exercises to find your "folk voice" and then teach 2-3 simple songs representing different cultures and musical traditions. The workshop includes discussion of the meanings of the songs and their cultural context: translation, significance in rituals, and musical aspects including rhythms and harmonies particular to the culture. Sheet music with lyrics is provided.

In circumstances where time, the plans of the concert presenter, and the desires of the workshop participants permit, workshop participants can be included into Svitanya's concert, joining us on-stage to perform the songs they have learned.

“Singing & Dancing Workshop” – *vocal session with dances & instruments*

As the title implies, the vocal component of the workshop described immediately above is enhanced with the chance to try traditional dances which accompany the songs being learned. Participants who are instrumentalists can add further enhance their experience by playing along.

“Finding Our Voices Together” – *mother-daughter singing workshop*

Eastern European folk music traditionally has been passed from mother to daughter, and the songs themselves often echo the intense emotions of the mother-daughter relationship. SVITANYA is fortunate to include a mother-daughter pair. This workshop was developed at the suggestion of one our fans, looking for an opportunity to sing with her young daughter, and will include learning one or two simple songs in two-part harmony, with an explanation of what the songs mean, where they come from, along with a little discussion about music and rhythms.



All workshop activities can be tailored to virtually any audience, regardless of age or abilities. We are always expanding the details of what we can do. Please share your needs or ideas with us!

Oustanding teaching and performing. I especially enjoyed the moment in your concert when our group of amateur singers formed as a chorus with you for the expanding circle of dancers. —Bart Carpenter, Susquehanna Folk Music Society