



# the French House Party experience

## FAQs

- Q.** Do I need to be able to read music?
- A.** No. Some knowledge of music notation or familiarity with chords or tablature can be helpful, but is not necessary. Paul McCartney could barely read music starting out, and he managed pretty well.
- Q.** Do I need to be able to PLAY music – for example, what if I'm interested in writing lyrics only?
- A.** No. Lyricists are welcome. If both parties are amenable, it may be desirable to for a lyricist to pair up with an instrumentalist, but that is completely optional and not a requirement of this course.
- Q.** Similarly, what if I can write the music, but I'm rotten with words?
- A.** Non-lyricists are welcome too. As above, if both parties are amenable, it may be desirable to for a lyricist to pair up with an instrumentalist, but that is completely optional and not a requirement of this course.
- Q.** Do I have to be able to sing well?
- A.** Not at all. But earnestness, forthrightness and sincerity count for a lot.
- Q.** Will I have to give a public performance?
- A.** We encourage you to, because sharing your efforts benefits both you and your peers, but we won't short-sheet your bed, if you elect not to.
- Q.** What will I have to bring with me? E.g. some samples of songs or poetry I've already composed? An instrument? Notebook, Journal, Music Manuscript or Tablature paper? Writing implements? Laptop/Notebook computers?
- A.** You are encouraged to bring three or four samples of original songs or poems. And if you play an acoustic instrument – guitar, ukulele, banjo, auto-harp, etc. – you are encouraged to bring it. A keyboard and guitar will also be available during the workshop sessions. All participants are required to bring some type of notebook, journal or manuscript (music notation) paper or pad plus writing implement or laptop/notebook for sketching, documenting and editing their songs. Additional note pads, some manuscript paper and writing implements will also be available.
- Q.** Will these be group sessions or will there be some one-to-one instruction?
- A.** Workshop Sessions will consist of a mix of group lecture, discussion and round-robin review; the round-robin review component will involve personalized instruction in a group setting. During songwriting assignment times, the instructor will be available for some one-to-one feedback and instruction.

## Dean Friedman's Songwriting Workshop

### Schedule

#### Workshop Synopsis

This three day workshop will explore a handful of useful tools and strategies for inspiring and facilitating the craft of songwriting. The role of choice in determining the theme, idiom, narrative voice and goal of a song will be examined along with strategies for creating an environment that encourages inspiration to strike. Students will be encouraged to share their original compositions, for comment and review. Each day, students will be given specific songwriting assignments, individually and/or in pairs, tailored to explore some of the basic principles of the craft of songwriting.

#### Friday

Morning	Arrivals
1.00pm – 2.00pm	Lunch
2.00pm – 4.30pm	Songwriting Workshop: Session 1 – Choosing Direction
5.00pm – 8.00pm	Songwriting Assignment Time (individual or pairs)
8.00pm – 9.00pm	Dinner

#### Saturday

8.30am – 9.30am	Breakfast
10.30am – 1.00pm	Songwriting Workshop: Session 2 – Coaxing Inspiration
1.00pm – 2.00pm	Lunch
2.00pm – 5.30pm	Songwriting Assignment Time (individual or pairs)
5.30pm – 7.30pm	Assignment Performance/Review
8.00pm – 10.30pm	Dean Friedman – In Concert (local venue)/and Dinner Buffet

#### Sunday

8.30am – 9.30am	Breakfast
10.30am – 1.00pm	Songwriting Workshop: Session 3 – Solving the Puzzle
1.00pm – 2.00pm	Lunch
2.00pm – 5.30pm	Songwriting Assignment Time (individual or pairs)
5.30pm – 7.30pm	Assignment Performance/Review
8.00pm – 9.00pm	Dinner
9.00pm – 11.00pm	Final Workshop Round-Robin Performance

#### Monday

8.30am	Breakfast
10.00am	Departure

Our website offers more details or call us to discuss your requirements  
[www.frenchhouseparty.co.uk](http://www.frenchhouseparty.co.uk) • [www.experiencetheexperience.co.uk](http://www.experiencetheexperience.co.uk)  
 Tel: 01299 896819 or 07900 322791