BJF Newsletter No 8  Autumn 2019

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Bert Jansch Guitar Workshop Sat 14 December 2019

New member of the teaching team: Dariush Kanani

The regular team of workshop leaders, Jon Riley and Tom Fairhurst will be joined this time by the exciting young guitarist Dariush Kanani. Dariush (pictured here) is a sought-after player, highly thought of by the most important fingerpickers of today. He was the youngest player invited to perform at Wizz Jones’ 80th birthday concert last April at the Cadogan Hall. He teaches regularly for the Stefan Grossman workshops. He brings all his energy and fresh approach to bear for our workshops and will be of great help specially to those who feel that would like some special attention.

The workshop will focus on Bert’s influences, his special techniques, riffs and vamps as well as new songs of Bert’s (not the same as in previous workshops). If you have a particular favourite, contact info@bertjanschfoundation.org and we can see if we can include that.

Book at: https://uk.patronbase.com/_CecilSharpHouse/Productions/EU/Performances

Bert Jansch Guitar Workshops 2020
Save the Dates  Sunday 5 April and Sunday 25 October 2020

If you can’t make it to London – then, wherever you are, the Bert Jansch Foundation can send a teacher or teachers – if you can find a venue and between 10 and 20 participants.
We have helped a songwriters club in Denmark, a Jazz College in Tours, France, run workshops. Also arranged them at Universities and for enthusiasts in parts of the UK. At present we are working with partners to run workshops in the North of England and in California. To discuss such a partnership, in bringing a Bert Jansch guitar workshop to your area, please contact info@bertjanschfoundation.org.

Right: workshop participants at Cecil Sharp House

'Around the world in 80 plays: for Bert Jansch'

In the picture (at the top of the Newsletter) Dariush is holding one of the travelling Yamaha TransAcoustic guitars that is going around the world. Each artist that receives it, plays something for Bert that they feel is particularly inspired by him. Launched a year ago on Bert’s 75th birthday, this project has so far spawned over 40 amazing responses.

That very guitar in the picture, known as the 'Johnny Guitar', after being played by Johnny Marr and then Bernard Butler and then hanging out with some young players in Camden Town, travelled to a radio station session in Brussels, and on to Holland and Denmark. It has collected many more signatures and is, at present, in France with the ‘Old Picker’ Pierre Lebras. The Guitar known as the ‘Beth Guitar’ has been around England and Scotland.
The 'Wildcard Guitar' has been around Ireland the Northern Ireland. The Pilgrim Guitar, started its journey in Surrey with Steve Pilgrim and Danny Thompson and is now up in Derbyshire on its way to Liverpool. The last one, the ‘Graham Guitar’ has landed in the USA and is now with Rick Chelew on the West Coast of California. Rick will take it to Tommy Emmanuel when his tour reaches Santa Cruz on 9 December. Thereafter it will be taken further north for a Bert session at a folk radio station in Ashland Oregon.

You can see and hear the amazing music from all the artists on the dedicated pages of the BJF website. Some were Bert's colleagues, friends and admirers who knew him musically or even personally in the early years. Others are well known musicians in their won areas and there are many teenagers just coming through – all spellbound by Bert's magic. Checkout Richard Thompson’s beautiful rendering of 'Blackwaterside'. And young Jack Theaker’s arrangement of the Trad tune 'Lovely Joan' – here https://80plays.bertjanschfoundation.org/

There is still time to nominate an artist to be on the journey.

'For Bert: Around the world’ gigs

The Bert Jansch Foundation is now actively facilitating gigs around the country featuring some of these amazing players. The first such 'For Bert – Around the World' gig, will hopefully take place at a Folk Club in Leeds in the Spring of 2020 and the next as part of the Frome Festival next summer at the Cheese and Grain Arts Centre in Frome, Somerset. If you know of a folk festival or folk club that would like to host a Bert Jansch event with several participants in the journey let us know.

Please contact info@bertjanschfoundation.org with offers and suggestions

Bert Jansch Studio at the Cheese and Grain, Frome

The Cheese and Grain Arts Centre in Frome, Somerset has been working hard on creating a recording studio in their tower block. They have named it for Bert Jansch. It is now being kitted out – and will actually house some of Bert's very own studio equipment, kindly donated by Bert’s son Adam. The travelling 'Wildcard Guitar' will arrive there this December for singer songwriter and guitarist John Smith as well as Cara Dillon, a Patron of the centre, to film and record their songs for Bert for the Bert Jansch Foundation 'Around the world in 80 plays' project.

Bert Jansch Studio Wallpaper

The Bert Jansch Foundation is creating some special Bert Jansch wallpaper for the studio.
For this, we invite fans to send us their Bert memorabilia: tickets, photographs, programmes, posters, signed album covers etc. Please send good quality scans or photos as soon as possible to geraldine@bertjanschfoundation.org

**BJF Grants**

The Bert Jansch Foundation continues to offer students in their final years, or young professional acoustic musicians, grants of up to £500 for a project that will help them with their education or early career. The Foundation usually makes these grants through Institutions or colleges, but eligible candidates can also apply to the foundation directly. Funds can be used for outgoing expenses such as travel, research, room hire, practical training, sound and lighting, recording studio fees, marketing, or any activity that will be beneficial to their personal career development.

This year we are awarding grants to students at Goldsmiths, University of London also Newcastle University, RCS Glasgow as well as Haringey Young Musicians and BIMM Birmingham.

You can see past grantees on the BJF website here [https://bertjanschfoundation.org/grants](https://bertjanschfoundation.org/grants) and to ask for an application form, contact info@bertjanschfoundation.org.

**Bert Transcribed the Bert Jansch Songbook**

We hope you have your copy of the Bert Jansch Songbook, with 24 songs published by Music Sales in August 2017. Music Sales has since been bought out by Hal Leonard. The book is now on its second print run. We are already developing the next batch of songs for a Volume 2. Let us know if you have a particular favourite that we should include at info@bertjanschfoundation.org.

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