

Robert Force

Workshop Description

one to two hours long

Icelandic Tunes of the 12th Century

The Icelandic langspil is one of the instruments in the zither family of its American cousin, the mountain dulcimer.

When Europe was going through the Dark Ages, Iceland was experiencing a Renaissance which lasted for more than 500 years! We will learn the tune (and story) of “Rhythum” (rhee-thum) which often accompanies the only traditional folk dance of Iceland, as well as the bard greeting song, Krummi (krew-mee).

These songs are in Aeolian-based tunings with the latter being in a Hyperaeolian mode. (What?)

Both songs are simple and easy to learn; don't be afraid of the fancy tuning names.

Here is a chance to view this haunting mode from the perspective of a millennium!

Time allowed, we will also learn to sing a simple Icelandic round about the coming of the Spring. Beginner II and up.

