

Song Interpretation through Text

zone41 theatre presents a masterclass with Thom Allison

Day 1 We will break down the text, using sentence structure, lyric choices, syntax, rhyme and, most importantly, sense. We will then combine this information with that given by the music-melody, motif, rhythm and accompaniment to understand what the song is about in its smallest detail. There will be some homework on the evening of the first day, to be prepared for Day 2.

Day 2 We will get the song back up on its feet and explore how we inhabit the song through different interpretations. What is happening to the character in the show? What if we are performing the piece in cabaret? What does the work of Day 1 tell us could be a possible story-setting for this song? What if, what if, what if??!!

The ultimate goal is to learn techniques that allow the performer to fearlessly attack a song and take themselves and, more importantly, the listener on an emotional and thought-filled journey to the heart and soul of a musical monologue.

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