

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PACKAGES

AROUND THE WORLD IN SONG

A CELEBRATION OF SONG FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

PERFORMED BY GUY MENDILOW ENSEMBLE

"Our school audiences were absolutely enthralled by the Guy Mendilow Ensemble. Guy's compelling presence draws young people into a musical and narrative journey that sparkles with humor and humanity, compassion and joy.

Around the World in Song is a wonderfully engaging, deeply musical experience. As enchanting as it is pedagogically sound, the show includes meaningful roles for the children at every turn, conveyed with an underlying respect for children as fellow people.

In addition to his consummate musicianship, Guy Mendilow brought a high level of organization, responsiveness, and generosity to his residency that were an absolute joy to work with."

— EMILY LAUGESEN, CO-DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT,
KRANNERT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, URBANA, IL

"In my 27 years of hiring artists, I can truthfully say that Guy is one of the finest and most intelligent musicians I have ever encountered...[He is] a music educator with very high standards."

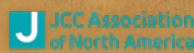
— ROBIN BAKER, CELEBRITY SERIES OF BOSTON, BOSTON, MA

"From the moment they began, the children were mesmerized. Guy Mendilow is not only a talented musician, but a gifted educator as well. He could read the group perfectly and knew exactly what the students needed next. The other musicians in the group were equally talented and the whole group together was one of the best performances I have experienced in over 26 years of education."

— TINA MONROE, PRINCIPAL, INDIAN CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
CEDAR RAPIDS IA (OUTREACH SPONSORED BY LEGION ARTS)



GME's tours & programs supported by funding awards from:



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HERE ARE A FEW OF THE PACKAGES YOU CAN PUT TOGETHER FOR YOUR COMMUNITY.

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AROUND THE WORLD IN SONG

SHOW DESCRIPTION.....1

The Guy Mendilow Ensemble opens up a world of music to children in this deeply interactive global adventure. With songs, stories and instruments from cultures worldwide, GME introduces children to the amazing ways people make music with their voices, bodies, and whatever else they find at-hand. Uplifting, funny and fun, this show grants children full respect and dignity, crafting an experience that is at once profoundly musical and also brimming with joyful play to fire up young imaginations.

Sample Teachers' Guide

LECTURES & MASTER CLASSES FOR UNIVERSITIES AND MUSIC TEACHERS

INTRODUCTION TO DALCROZE EDUCATION.....2

Around the World in Song is based on principles of Dalcroze Education. Now, be part of this joyful, social and experiential workshop where you'll learn music through the body! Special pedagogical sessions available as add-on for music teachers and music education students.

LISTENING THROUGH THE MUSIC.....2

Exciting, quickly learned improv games give participants experience critical to working with others: the abilities to tune in, connect, and respond spontaneously and meaningfully to one another to make fresh, fulfilling music.

FOR GRADES 5+

STORYFIRE – LEADERSHIP THROUGH SONGWRITING, STORYTELLING & ANIMATION.....3

Springboard Songwriting/Storytelling residencies give participants tools they can use to make their stories speak more strongly. They can also spark relationships between students from different communities and demographics through joint audio and animation projects.

THE FORGOTTEN KINGDOM (FOR GRADES 5-6).....4

A version of the show designed especially for children ages 10-12. The Forgotten Kingdom is “an evocative trek through former Ottoman lands, an allegory that ultimately begs some questions about ourselves today, and the ways these stories continue to play out, in a modern guise...” (Perceptive Travel). It’s a story of the passing of an older age, whose ending begins with WWI and the collapse of the Ottoman Empire and concludes definitively with WWII. In this long-form production, intertwining music and storytelling conjure voices lost to war, rendering a nearly lost world with drama, humour and heart.

CHORAL/STRING COLLABORATIONS.....5

With choral and string specialists in the Ensemble, tailored collaborations with community and professional choirs and string groups are an excellent way to forge connections and expand musical horizons. For Kindergarten - Grade 4

FOR KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 4

MOVE THE MUSIC.....6

Exciting experiential games nurture children’s musicality and confidence in their own musical intuition. Discovery, active listening and a spirit of play abound as children learn vital musical concepts by using their bodies as the principal instrument.

ABOUT GUY MENDILOW ENSEMBLE.....6

“In the long term, both residency and performance gave legitimacy and merit to our overall education goal. Because it was such a successful process with such an overwhelmingly positive outcome, it lends credibility to our continued efforts to expand our educational outreach. And, it should encourage continued giving to the theater.

The residency certainly made strong impact not only on the students but also the faculty and staff. The reaction was so solidly affirming — even students who as a general rule don’t speak up or engage were doing just that by the end of the residency sessions.

The performance made a lasting impact on our patrons. It was thought provoking and not soon forgotten. This was a highly skilled style of musical storytelling, a unique departure from the ordinary, and it surpassed attendance expectation.

Guy Mendilow was not only a pleasure to work with, his process and product exceeded expectations. The ensemble was worldly, interesting and humble. Such a treat for us to have the opportunity to present.”

— ERIN BUTLER,
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
 WYO THEATER, SHERIDAN, WY



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AROUND THE WORLD IN SONG

SAMPLE TEACHERS GUIDE [CLICK HERE]

MORE INFO [CLICK HERE]

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ARTIST STATEMENT

“Only our best is just good enough for children.” — Zoltán Kodály

That’s a sentiment we take to heart because we know that children’s early music experiences shape the rest of their musical lives. It’s a responsibility — and a privilege — to give our very best to children. Drawing on our experience as a music educators, teacher trainers and parents, we strive to create the most engaging, interactive and pedagogically sound concerts for young audiences. — Guy Mendilow

VIDEO ▶

AUDIO 🔊

ADDITIONAL VIDEOS ▶

OUTREACH VIDEOS ▶



“...captivating! The children were very involved, dancing, clapping and singing, the message was very positive and the music was wonderful.”

— LEV ROTHENBERG,
DIRECTOR OF ARTS & EDUCATION,
JCC INDIANAPOLIS, IN

“There’s nothing that engages kids as much as showing your interest in them: that doesn’t happen as a general rule. Guy’s commitment grows out of a deep respect for the abilities, potential, and rights of kids.”

— MONTESSORI CORNER,
PLAINSBORO NJ

“What an amazing job of demonstrating that “you can make music from everything” while engaging the students for the entire hour! All the kids were smiling as they left and I heard many comments like, “This was really fun!” and “Best music ever!” I received an email from the superintendent later that day saying all the students returned to the school jazzed by the program and thanking us. Each of the teachers also emailed with compliments.”

— LESLEE MILLER, MANAGER,
ARTISANS AT THE DAHMEN BARN,
UNIONTOWN, WA

(OUTREACH SPONSORED BY
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
PERFORMING ARTS)

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LECTURES & MASTER CLASSES FOR UNIVERSITIES, ADULTS & MULTI GENERATIONAL AUDIENCES

INTRODUCTION TO DALCROZE EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY - ADULT | 1-3 DAY PROGRAM | 60-90 MINUTES | MASTER CLASS | CONFIGURATION: SOLO RELEVANT TO: MUSIC EDUCATION

FURTHER READING:

WHAT IS DALCROZE EDUCATION? 

ORIGINS OF DALCROZE EDUCATION 

Part of what makes Around the World in Song unique is that it is built on principles of Dalcroze Education, a powerful, experiential approach to learning music through the body. In this master class, students gain a first hand experience of this joyful, non-verbal approach to learning the non-verbal art of music. An additional pedagogy session is available to introduce students to the principles, teaching strategies and pedagogical considerations behind Dalcroze Education. Participants come prepared to move. No previous experience is necessary.

LISTENING THROUGH THE MUSIC: TEAM-BUILDING THROUGH IMPROVISATION

UNIVERSITY - ADULT | 1-3 DAY PROGRAM | 60-90 MINUTES | MASTER CLASS | CONFIGURATION: SOLO RELEVANT TO: MUSIC EDUCATION

FURTHER READING:

USING THE JOY OF MUSIC TO FOSTER EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION 

LISTENING THROUGH THE MUSIC - COMMUNICATION ACROSS DIFFERENCES 

BACKGROUND ON DALCROZE EDUCATION 

Exciting, quickly learned improv games give participants experience critical to working with others: the abilities to tune in, connect, and respond spontaneously and meaningfully to one another to make fresh, fulfilling music. Geared for music educators as well as classroom teachers and those organizations looking to foster group cohesion, this experiential workshop delves into the theory and practice of team building and the cultivation of leadership through games in musical improvisation. This workshop requires no previous musical experience. Participants should come ready to move and play. This workshop has been used by mediation organizations like Seeds of Peace and featured at universities and conservatories including the Longy School of Music of Bard College and Moravian University. Listening Through the Music is grounded in principles of **Dalcroze Education**.

“We do not only listen to music with our ears, it resonates in our whole body, in the brain and the heart.”

— EMILE JAQUES-DALCROZE,
 NOTES BARIOLÉES



“Guy Mendilow Ensemble’s Around the World in Song is compelling, wonderfully engaging and deeply educational. For children, GME cultivates listening and musical skills in ways that are important and unusual, addressing contemporary social issues with tact, thoughtfulness and caring. Their performance was an inspiring event for me as an audience member and instructor, for my graduate students (all whom are teachers and pre-service teachers), and for the hundreds of elementary school children present. Warmly and enthusiastically recommended!”

— LIORA BRESLER,
 UNIVERSITY OF IL, CHAMPAIGN, IL

“... a vital and vibrant way to illustrate the possibilities of interfaith and intercultural cooperation... They are among the finest musicians I have ever heard, and I would recommend them strongly to any university or college campus that cares about diversity, multiculturalism, or interfaith cooperation.”

— GREG MCGONIGLE,
 TUFTS UNIVERSITY, MEDFORD, MA



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FOR GRADES 5+ STORYFIRE — LEADERSHIP THROUGH SONGWRITING, STORYTELLING & ANIMATION

GRADES 5+ | 3-5 DAY RESIDENCY | 60-120 MINUTES PER SESSION | CLASS VISIT |
IDEAL FOR GROUP SIZES OF UP TO 15 | CONFIGURATION: SPRINGBOARD SONGWRITING TRIO

FURTHER WATCHING: 

MORE INFO [\[CLICK HERE\]](#)

STORYFIRE GIVES PARTICIPANTS TOOLS THEY CAN USE TO MAKE THEIR STORIES SPEAK MORE STRONGLY

Young people have stories that are important. Yet all too frequently, stories and young storytellers alike are dismissed by adults. I believe that it is part of our responsibility to give young people tools to make their stories more resonant, speaking powerfully in both intellectual and emotional ways by making others who are different — including adults — part of the story. StoryFire residencies are designed to give young people such tools.

A Reason to Relate Across Demographic Differences

StoryFire sparks vital opportunities for participants from different demographics to forge meaningful connections with through collaborative art. In StoryFire residencies, students from one school often create audio that is then animated by a similarly aged cohort of students in a different school community. The joint project impels pre-production student conversation via Skype followed by post-production presentations of their mutual work in both schools, complete with artist receptions and talk-backs (the featured artists are the students!)

We believe that it is increasingly important for young people to be able work with, and appreciate, peers from cultural, linguistic and socio-economic backgrounds different from their own. Likewise, it is crucial for young people to navigate their day-to-day lives knowing that there are many possible “correct” perspectives besides their own, and feeling a personal need for social justice and equity.



“Our audience of (800) children was transfixed. I was spellbound. This is the kind of experience that can open your eyes and ears to possibilities never imagined... I asked the children as they were leaving the theatre after the concert how the experience had been for them. It was the first time I heard unanimous appreciation. If you are trying to open your audiences to new horizons, if you are trying to expose the arts to children or adults, if you seek a new experience for yourself, I highly recommend the Guy Mendilow Ensemble to you.”

— CHAD HAIGHT, ADMIRAL THEATRE, BREMERTON, WA

“The kids loved it! They are still talking about it! Thank you for giving our students this wonderful experience! So many of them don’t have the opportunity to attend events like this. You gave them an experience of a lifetime!”

— KAREN GONZALEZ,
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS,
HURLEY K-8 AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM,
BOSTON, MA

(OUTREACH SPONSORED BY
CELEBRITY SERIES OF BOSTON)



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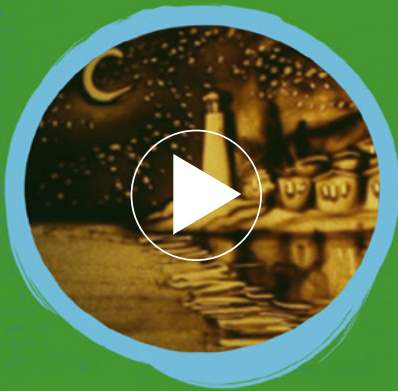
THE FORGOTTEN KINGDOM (FOR GRADES 5-6)

GRADES 5 - 6 | SINGLE SESSION | 45-60 MINUTES | CLASS VISIT, YOUTH SERIES THEATRE PERFORMANCE OR SCHOOL ASSEMBLY | SUITABLE FOR GROUPS OF ANY SIZE THOUGH BEST FOR INTIMATE NUMBERS | CONFIGURATION: TRIO OR QUINTET

FURTHER READING:

SAMPLE TEACHERS GUIDE [CLICK HERE]

VIDEOS



“Our audience of (800) children was transfixed. I was spellbound. This is the kind of experience that can open your eyes and ears to possibilities never imagined... I asked the children as they were leaving the theatre after the concert how the experience had been for them. It was the first time I heard unanimous appreciation. If you are trying to open your audiences to new horizons, if you are trying to expose the arts to children or adults, if you seek a new experience for yourself, I highly recommend the Guy Mendilow Ensemble to you.”

— CHAD HAIGHT, ADMIRAL THEATRE, BREMERTON, WA

ADDITIONAL VIDEOS

INTERACTIVE PRESENTERS KIT THE FORGOTTEN KINGDOM [CLICK HERE]

MORE INFORMATION [CLICK HERE]

A version of the performance for grades 5-6

Embark on a musical trek through a nearly lost Mediterranean world. Journey through former Ottoman lands starting in Sarajevo and winding through Salónica in an atmospheric performance restoring vibrant, living colour to otherwise sepia snapshots of ordinary people caught up in extraordinary upheaval, from the final days of the Ottoman Empire through WWII.

In this sweeping adventure spun out by an *“international tour-de-force”* (Bethlehem Morning Call) from the Middle East, South and North America, music and radio drama-style stories conjure Sephardi women’s voices lost to war, recorded in an endangered language blending archaic Spanish with Turkish and Greek. The bittersweet rawness of Tango, gorgeous vocal harmonies and the rhythmic fire of classical Arabic percussion intensifies the emotionality of Western classical music in cinematic arrangements stirring those familiar with the culture and those new to it.

Rendering stories and songs of an older age with drama, humour and heart, *The Forgotten Kingdom* is a performance that *“explodes with artistry, refinement, and excitement.”* (Hebrew Union College, OH)



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SAILORS, SIRENS & KINGS: ADVENTURES OF LADINO SONG SPRINGBOARD SONGWRITING/STORYTELLING RESIDENCIES

GRADES 5+ | SINGLE SESSION | 60-90 MINUTES | BEST SUITED FOR INTIMATE CLASS VISITS |
IDEAL FOR GROUP SIZES OF UP TO 40 | CONFIGURATION: TRIO OR QUINTET

MORE INFO [CLICK HERE]

- Through story and song, this classroom program introduces students to the richness and history of Sephardic cultures from the former Ottoman Empire.
- Who are the Sephardim?
- Why is the endangered Ladino language like a time capsule?
- What is it about these stories that makes them live on in our imaginations, even when they come from very different times and places?

CHORAL/STRING COLLABORATIONS

GRADES 7+ | 1-3 DAY PROGRAM | 60-90 MINUTES | CLASS VISIT | TAILORED FOR CHORAL/
STRING GROUPS | CONFIGURATION: TRIO OR QUINTET

FURTHER WATCHING: 

MORE INFO [CLICK HERE]

With choral and string specialists in the Ensemble, tailored collaborations with community and professional choirs and string groups are an excellent way to forge connections and expand musical horizons. Repertoire is crafted at a level suitable for each group: challenging enough to stretch technique yet always within reach to ensure success.



"I just wanted to reiterate for you what an excellent experience Shady Hill had with Guy Mendilow Ensemble this fall. This Monday I performed my winter concert with my Chorus, and we reprised one of the numbers that GME taught us in the collaboration at the beginning of November. Many aspects of the concert had a lasting impact on the kids. Several adults in the community shared that they thought he was one of the best visiting artists we've had here, and personally, I appreciated how professional the entire ensemble was and easy to deal with while preparing for the performance."

— DARIN GOULET, PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT CHAIR, SHADY HILL SCHOOL, CAMBRIDGE, MA
(RESIDENCY SPONSORED BY CELEBRITY SERIES OF BOSTON)

"A memorable and exciting concert... a truly moving evening of music and story. In addition, we were thrilled to have the group conduct a choral vocal workshop for approximately 80 students involved in the choir program at Moody Middle School of the Arts. I would not hesitate to recommend Guy Mendilow Ensemble for its high level of artistry, tuneful and accessible music, and great work with kids."

— DAVID MANN, PERFORMING ARTS MANAGER, EVERGREEN CULTURAL CENTRE, COQUITLAM, BC, CANADA

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FOR KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 4 MOVE THE MUSIC

GRADES: 1 - 4 (IN AGE APPROPRIATE GROUPS) | SINGLE WORKSHOP OR MULTI-DAY
RESIDENCY | SESSION LENGTH: 45-60 MINUTES | CLASS VISIT | GROUP SIZE: UP TO 15
| CONFIGURATION: SOLO

FURTHER READING: [WHAT IS DALCROZE EDUCATION?](#) 

FURTHER READING: [ORIGINS OF DALCROZE EDUCATION](#) 

MORE INFO [\[CLICK HERE\]](#)

In this joyous workshop, exciting experiential games nurture children's musicality and confidence in their own musical intuition. Discovery, active listening and a spirit of play abound as children learn vital musical concepts by using their bodies as the principal instrument. Be ready to move, sing, explore and improvise together!



ABOUT GUY MENDILOW ENSEMBLE

Folding radio theatre-style stories into a top flight world music concert, the **Guy Mendilow Ensemble** is "an international tour de force" (Bethlehem Morning Call) from the Middle East, South and North America. GME combines musicianship with cinematic storytelling in shows that "explode with artistry, refinement, and excitement" (Hebrew Union College), whisking audiences to distant times and picturesque places, conjuring voices lost to upheaval, to spark personal connections with stories of ordinary people living through extraordinary moments of change. Adding such visceral dimensions to tales of the long-ago-and-far-away, GME shows stir resonant questions about our own struggles and dilemmas today. To bring audiences into these moments, the Ensemble draws on traditional tunes, techniques, and tales but in elegant arrangements and with radical reframing.

GME calls on expertise with a broad musical palette. The emotionality of Western classical music is intensified by the bittersweet rawness of Tango, gorgeous vocal harmonies and the rhythmic fire of classical Arabic percussion. GME's storytelling is inspired by the dreamlike qualities of Pablo Neruda and Michael Ondaatje, and by Dan Carlin's vivid restoration of faded historical memory.

Distinguished artists and educators, GME is honoured to be the recipient of multiple funding awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, The Boston Foundation, the New England Foundation for the Arts and Western Arts Alliance on the basis of its artistry, cultural preservation and the strengthening of communities through the arts.

"There's nothing that engages kids as much as showing your interest in them: that doesn't happen as a general rule. Guy's commitment grows out of a deep respect for the abilities, potential, and rights of kids."

— MONTESSORI CORNER,
PLAINSBORO NJ

"What an amazing job of demonstrating that "you can make music from everything" while engaging the students for the entire hour! All the kids were smiling as they left and I heard many comments like, "This was really fun!" and "Best music ever!" I received an email from the superintendent later that day saying all the students returned to the school jazzed by the program and thanking us. Each of the teachers also emailed with compliments."

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AT THE DAHMEN BARN, UNIONTOWN, WA
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