

Scott Ainslie Concert Offerings

"Blessed with an expressive baritone and nimble fingers...Ainslie is a master of American acoustic Blues..he is also among the most highly regarded Blues historians, a veritable walking encyclopedia of Blues and Jazz." - Dan Bolles, SoundBites, Seven Days

Scott Ainslie is known for his ability to sing, play and speak the Blues into life. **Concerts filled with stories as well as song from the lives of the traditional players, the culture of the songs and the history that brought about the music. Scott performs concerts of traditional Blues and some Blues-inspired originals.**

Multi-media Concerts:

Delta Blues Pilgrimage concerts are available with projections of original photography from Ainslie's Delta Blues Pilgrimage collection. These **multi-media concerts** can be tailored for public general audience Blues concerts and educational concerts with older youth. Give your audience a visual experience of Blues history with Scott's moving original prints. The exhibit includes 25 matted images taken in April 2010 as he walked some of the very same Mississippi Delta ground on which the original Bluesmen stood and played: the railroad tracks where W.C. Handy, 'the Father of the Blues,' first heard a slide guitarist in 1902, the full moon over the black river town of Friars Point in Blues legend Robert Johnson's *Travelin' Riverside Blues*; Johnson's gravestone, the towns of his birth and death...and much more.

One Hundred Years at the Crossroads, Dedicated to the Work of Robert Johnson:

In this special solo show, singer and multi-instrumentalist Scott Ainslie explores the first Blues music and the times that gave birth to it, with soaring acoustic performances of the songs that electrified Robert Johnson's contemporaries and went on to make music history. Robert Johnson scholar and author of a groundbreaking book on the legendary Bluesman, Ainslie celebrates Johnson's influence on 20th and 21st century music as he takes the audience along Johnson's own path in history and song. Born in Mississippi in 1911 and making his first recordings in 1936, Robert Johnson's music eventually had a huge impact decades after his untimely death - through the work of Muddy Waters, Elmore James and legendary rockers and guitarists such as Eric Clapton, Keith Richards, Robert Plant and Jimmy Page. Johnson's 29-recorded songs would ultimately change the course of rock and roll history.

"Performed before a near-capacity audience Saturday night at the Carnegie Lecture Hall, Ainslie's music touched on everyone from Piedmont blues legend John Jackson and Delta bluesman David "Honeyboy" Edwards to the great Robert Johnson."-Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pre-concert talks and presentations, some with slide images, are an option frequently taken by presenters who want a separate pre-concert talk/illustrative tour of the history and musical territory in advance of a scheduled concert, whether a teaching concert or a regular performance.

Teaching Performance Programs

Peppered with humor and stories, Ainslie's teaching concerts help students and teachers learn to listen for the musical building blocks that continue to influence the music they hear all around them today - contemporary Rock, Bluegrass, Country, Gospel, Metal, R & B, and Hip-Hop. Question and answer periods are welcome at the end of each performance, as time allows. All

teaching programs are graduated to suit the experience and educational reach of the students, often in consultation with local administrators and teachers.

Call & Response: African and American Musical Traditions - In a program of spoken words and live musical performances, diverse audiences of all ages will sing and clap with Scott Ainslie through a survey of the hidden history and the dynamic interplay of more than a century of American and African musical traditions. This interactive presentation encourages students and teachers to find African retentions in whatever form of pop music they most enjoy and provides a strong object lesson in the cross-cultural exchanges that have come to define the leadership role of American music and culture.

Across the Color Line: The African South - In this varied program featuring the calabash gourd banjo, diddley bow, and guitar, Ainslie tours the music of the American South where European and African musical traditions cross-pollinated to make the powerful hybrids that have long dominated popular music in our nation and, subsequently, the world. Suitable for all ages, this is a tour-de-force in Southern musical traditions that exposes their roots from the Scots-Irish fiddle tunes of the Appalachians to the musical traditions of West Africa.

Before Rock 'n' Roll - Where did our music of today come from? This program will help teachers and students explore the music that came before today's Rock 'n' Roll. With interactive call & response singing and syncopated hand clapping, Ainslie leads a fast-moving tour of early spirituals, work songs, East Coast Ragtime, and Delta Blues. Playing fretless gourd banjo, one-string diddley bow, acoustic and slide guitars, he encourages guided, appropriate participation and makes the learning fun.

Workshops

Scott Ainslie offers a wide range of workshop for **teachers, students and master classes for guitar players of all levels and full weeks of instruction for music camps.**

“Science and Sound” - Ainslie offers a **three-hour arts integration workshop for teachers.**