

Review of HISS 2022: Hannah Bloor

I would like to start by thanking all the amazing tutors and participants of HISS 2022. I had an incredible time and it was a great opportunity that I really enjoyed. Last summer I had the privilege of returning to HISS as a bursary student and I could not recommend the experience strongly enough. Having participated in this course last year, and remembering the great time I had, I was very much looking forward to participating in this incredibly informative course.

From the moment I arrived, I was greeted with a welcoming and stimulating environment. It was a very well paced course, as it allowed me to take part in many in depth classes, whilst still being able to learn briefly about other interesting concepts. This was through “Shorties” which were fifteen minute long talks on any topic that were open to all. I could not recommend these enough. They were very enlightening. This was all improved yet further by incredibly friendly and approachable tutors, excellent food, and accommodation.

On top of everything else, one of my highlights of the course, which I remembered so fondly from last time, were the evening live music sessions in the bar. They were a really enjoyable experience where you not only got to socialise with the other participants but also learn and listen to a plethora of folk music. I found this particularly rewarding as I know very little about folk and therefore I really enjoyed learning a bit more about it. Other noteworthy highlights were a spectacular tutors’ concert and a wonderful musical banquet.

Another of my personal favourites was the final concert on Friday where I had the pleasure of singing a solo as part of the choir ensemble. The week as a whole was a truly lovely experience, a great event to be a part of, and a wonderful way to hear and participate in great music and do so with incredibly talented and kind people.