

## Workshops @ AKA A Cappella VIII

Ever heard of *Pitch Perfect*, the movie about a cappella? Did you think it was cool, and wonder to yourself, maybe I could try that out? We've got a rare opportunity for you!

AKA A Cappella VIII brings you a series of workshops conducted by Deke Sharon, vocal producer and music director of the *Pitch Perfect* movie series and *The Sing Off* televised a cappella competition series. If that doesn't ring a bell, *The Sing Off* is the show that first introduced cult favourite a cappella group, *Pentatonix*, into the mainstream.

In the course of accomplishing his personal vision, *to spread harmony through harmony*, Deke Sharon has had a wealth of experience working with professionals to beginners alike. So, whether you're a singer, an instrumental musician, or someone with no music background at all, this workshop will let you try your hand at making some a cappella magic yourself!

### Proposed Workshop Structure

Total Length: **2.5 hrs**

1. Introduction to Contemporary A Cappella (20 min.)
2. Singing by the numbers + Part learning (60 min.)
3. Break (15 min.)
4. Vocal Instrumentation (25 min.)
5. Short Performance (10 min.)
6. Questions and Answers (20 min.)

The workshop will build participants incrementally toward the final song presentation, by first introducing them to a cappella, then slowly working towards putting together a song using contemporary a cappella techniques. Descriptions of the abovementioned topics, adapted from the full-length seminar/workshop topic descriptions, are listed here below to provide more details.

#### [Introduction to Contemporary A Cappella](#)

What is "Contemporary A Cappella," and where did it come from? Learn about the current scene by tracing the roots of pop a cappella from chant and madrigals through a dizzying array of traditions including barbershop and doo-wop, with a look (and listen) at how all previous styles have influenced the contemporary sound. (this seminar requires audio playback: speakers and an 1/8th inch cable)

#### [Singing by the Numbers](#)

Wanna learn how to sing a cappella harmony without any sheet music? Using the diatonic scale (do-re-mi), learn how to use your ear and some very basic music theory to create interesting background parts to a wide variety of popular songs.

#### [Vocal Instrumentation](#)

Contemporary a cappella is known for the use of vocal percussion to mimic the drums. But what about the rest of the band? Deke is known to be one of the pioneers of instrument mimicry in contemporary a cappella music – electric guitar, trumpet, muted trumpet, and the harmonica – these are but a few of the instrument sounds in Deke's arsenal. Learn not only how to make these sounds, but also get ideas on when and where to use them.

## Participant Experience

Participants in this proposed experiential workshop package can expect the following:-

- Gain a brief understanding of a cappella and its roots
- Learn basic chord structure and harmonisation
- Experience making instrument sounds with only their voices
- Have a fun experience making music together with colleagues
- Learn and perform a song segment a cappella
- Interactive Q&A with *Pitch Perfect* Vocal Producer, Deke Sharon

## Package Rates

Description	Duration	Price
2.5 hr package	2.5 hrs	\$1800

## Workshop Schedules

### Overall Booking Schedule (Deke Sharon)

Time	22 Sep (Thu)	23 Sep (Fri)	24 Sep (Sat)	25 Sep (Sun)
0800 – 1000				Festival Workshops (51 Waterloo St)
1000 – 1200				
1200 – 1330	Break / Travel	Break / Travel	Break / Travel	Break / Travel
1330 – 1530	NUS Halls: 1400 - 1730			Festival Workshops (SCH)
1530 – 1730		ITE College Central: 1530 - 1730		
1730 – 1830	Break / Travel	Break / Travel	Break	Break
1900 – 2100	Corp Client 1 1900 - 2100		Regional Competition	Closing Gala
2130 – 2230				

\*Blank slots are available for booking.