

Jewish Music

Ptsach Bazamer

(Come Gather)

Hebrew

Musical notation for 'Ptsach Bazamer' in 4/4 time, key of D major. The score consists of two staves. The first staff contains measures 1-8 with chords: D, A7/C#, D, A7/C#, D, A7/C#, D, A7/C#. The second staff starts at measure 9 and contains measures 9-16 with chords: D, A7/C#, D, A7/C#, D, A7/C#, D, A7/C#.

Level 1: Ptsach Bazamer

This Hebrew song is a shepherd's dance applauding the successful sheering of the flock and celebratory feast to follow. This upbeat work is in 4/4 time and exclusively uses a D major 5 finger pattern in the right hand and I and V7 chords in the left hand. The title, and first line of the chorus "Ptsach Bazamer" is a call to the shepherds to come celebrate their success!

Ayil, Ayil

(Ram, Ram)

Hebrew

Musical notation for 'Ayil, Ayil' in 2/4 time, key of A minor. The score consists of three staves. The first staff contains measures 1-6 with chords: Am, Dm/A, Am, Dm/A, Am, Dm/A, Am, Dm/A, Am, Dm/A, Am, Dm/A. The second staff starts at measure 7 and contains measures 7-12 with chords: Am, Dm/A, E7, Am, Am, Dm/A, Bb, Am, Am, Dm/A. The third staff starts at measure 13 and contains measures 13-18 with chords: Am, Dm/A, Am, Dm/A, Am, Dm/A, Am.

Level 2: Ayil, Ayil

"Ayil, Ayil" translates as "Ram, Ram". Its lyrics are a humorous depiction of the narrator's husband inept hunting and farming skills. This upbeat song is in 2/4 and uses an A minor five finger pattern in the right hand. The left hand is mostly I and IV chords, with one V7 and ii chord. The shift between the I and IV chord is almost constant which can help students gain comfort quickly shifting between chords.

Jewish Music

Di Zun Vet Arunter Geyn

(The Sun will be Setting)

Yiddish

Musical score for "Di Zun Vet Arunter Geyn" in G minor, 3/4 time. The score consists of two staves. The first staff contains the melody with chords: Gm, Cm/G, D7/F#, Gm, Cm/G, F7/A. The second staff contains the bass line with chords: Bb, Cm, F7/A, Bb, Gm, Cm/G, Gm. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Level 3: Di Zun Vet Arunter Geyn

“De Zun Vet Arunter Gain,” translates to English as “The Sun Will be Setting” and should be played slowly, reminiscent of a lullaby. It is in G minor with a right-hand melody range of an octave. The melody opens with an arpeggiated figure and also features stepwise motion, broken chords, and repeated notes. The left hand harmonizes the melody with I, IV, V, V/iii, and iii chords. This lyrical work is a helpful resource as students begin to incorporate secondary dominants into their harmonization skills.

Maoz Tzur

(Rock of Ages)

Hebrew

Musical score for "Maoz Tzur" in A major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves. The first staff contains the melody with chords: A, E7/G#, A, D/A, A, E7/G#, A, E7/G#, A, E7/G#, A. The second staff contains the bass line with chords: A, D/A, E7/G#, A, C#m/G#, F#m, D/F#, A, E7/G#, A. The third staff contains the bass line with chords: E7/G#, A, D/A, A, E7/G#, A. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Level 4: Maoz Tzur

Maoz Tzur is a Hanukkah song sung after the lighting of the Menorah. This song is in 4/4, the key of A major, and is intended to be played at a moderate tempo. The right-hand melody uses several hand positions and expands to the octave. It is harmonized with I, iii, IV, V7, and vi chords. The melody is both bright and moving with rhythmic variety within the melody to add beauty to this song.

American Indian Music

Orphan Child

Cherokee

Musical score for 'Orphan Child' in 4/4 time. The score consists of two staves. The first staff contains measures 1-4 with chords C, F, C, G7, and C. The second staff contains measures 5-8 with chords F, C, G7, and C. The melody is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Level 1: Orphan Child

This short melody comes from the Cherokee tribe and was written during the mid-1800s in response to the Trail of Tears. It is in 4/4 and uses a C Major five finger pattern in the right hand along with I, IV, and V chords in the left hand. Its simple structure lends itself as a great beginning harmonization in the group piano curriculum.

Wakantanka taku nitawa

Many and Great, O God, Are Thy Works

Dakota

Musical score for 'Wakantanka taku nitawa' in 3/4 time. The score consists of two staves. The first staff contains measures 1-8 with chords Dm, C, Dm C, Dm, Gm/D, and Dm. The second staff contains measures 9-12 with chords Gm/D, Dm, C, Dm, C, Dm C, and Dm. The melody is written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb).

Level 2: Wakantanka taku nitawa

This Dakota melody was originally written to describe a Native American mission in western Minnesota and is still frequently used in both Native and non-Native protestant churches. The right hand melodic line spans one octave in the key of d minor while the left hand maintains limited movement between three chords. The slow tempo and infrequent harmonic changes make this ideal for a second semester harmonization.

American Indian Music

A.I.M Song (American Indian Movement)

Musical notation for the A.I.M Song (American Indian Movement) in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody consists of two lines of music. The first line has eight measures with chords G, Am, G, C, Am, C, and G. The second line has eight measures with chords Am, F, Am, F, G, and C. The melody is simple and rhythmic, with a fast tempo.

Level 3: A.I.M Song

The A.I.M (American Indian Movement) Song is an intertribal song, which is often used at protests and powwows across many tribes. This popular tune features a wide melodic range with accompanying I, IV, V, and iv chords. Although the rhythm remains simple throughout, its fast tempo requires greater coordination and movement between hands.

Heleluyvn Yvhikarēs I Will Sing Hallelujah

Muskogee

Musical notation for the Muskogee tune Heleluyvn Yvhikarēs (I Will Sing Hallelujah) in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The key signature is one flat (Bb), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody consists of two lines of music. The first line has four measures with chords F, Dm, F, and C/E. The second line has seven measures with chords F, Bb/F, F, Dm, F, Bb/F, and F. The melody is more complex and ornate than the A.I.M Song, with a fast tempo.

Level 4: Heleluyvn Yvhikarēs

This is a Muskogee tune originally written in response to the Trail of Tears. The joyful melody speaks to a hope in something more powerful than the displacement of Natives from their tribal lands. This harmonization is in the key of F Major and features significant ornamentation and movement in the right hand while the left hand moves between four chords. This example is a great opportunity to experiment with improvisation in a melodic line.

African Music

L'ábẹ̀ Igi Òròmbó (Under The Orange Tree)

Nigerian

Musical notation for the first system of the song. It consists of two staves. The first staff contains measures 1 through 8. The second staff contains measures 9 through 16. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, D7, G, C, D, G, G/(B), C, G/(B), G, D7, G.

Level 1: L'ábẹ̀ Igi Òròmbó (Under The Orange Tree)

This is a folksong from the Yoruba speaking people of South Western Nigeria, usually sung by children while playing outdoors, sometimes under the shade of a tree during the hot summers. It is in 2/4 meter and has been transcribed in the G major five finger position. The melody is easily harmonized by the I, IV and V7 chords in the left hand.

Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika

God Bless Africa
(Excerpt)

South African

Musical notation for the first system of the song. It consists of three staves. The first staff contains measures 1 through 4. The second staff contains measures 5 through 8. The third staff contains measures 9 through 12. The key signature is two flats (Bb, Eb) and the time signature is 4/4. Chords are indicated above the notes: F, C7, F/C, Gm/Bb, Dm, C, F, Gm/Bb, F/C, Gm/Bb, F/C, C7, F, Gm/Bb, F/C, C7, F.

Level 2: Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika (God Bless Africa)

This is South Africa's national anthem, known throughout most African countries, especially the southern region, as the "African Anthem." The tune was originally composed in 1897 by Enoch Sontonga and later became a pan-African liberation song. Various versions and harmonizations exist; however, this melodic excerpt has been reduced to use the I, ii, IV, V7 and vi chords in the left hand.

African Music

Olúróbí

(Tale of the Talking Tree)

Nigerian

Chords: G, G7, C/G, G, Bm/F#, Am/E, G/D, C/E, G/D, G/D, Am/C, G/D, C, D7, G.

Level 3: Olúróbí (Tale of the Talking Tree)

This is a song from a Yoruba folktale about a woman named Olúróbí who made a deal with a spirit tree so she could bear a child. In desperation, Olúróbí promised the spirit tree that she would return the child back as an offering. Transcribed in the key of G major, it is in 3/8 meter and mostly in the five-finger position. The left-hand harmony uses the I, ii, iii, V7/IV, IV, and V7 chords.

Akoi Wata Geri

(There Is A Town In Yonder)

Nigerian

Chords: F, F#dim(7), Gm, F, Gm/Bb, F/C, C7, F/C, F#dim7, Gm, F, Gm/Bb, Gm/Bb, F/C, C7, F.

Level 4: Akoi Wata Geri (There Is A Town In Yonder)

This folk song is from the Northern region of Nigeria and is usually sung in various occasions including weddings, naming ceremonies, and other public events. It is in 3/8, transcribed in the key of F major, and within F five-finger position. The melody is harmonized in the left hand by the I, viio7/ii, ii, and V7 chords.

Mexican Music

Las Mañanitas

Mexican Folk Song

Musical score for "Las Mañanitas" in 3/4 time, A major, with a tempo of 88. The score consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 88. The melody is written on the first staff, and the chords are indicated above it: G, D, G, C, G, D. The second staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 3/4 time signature. The melody continues on the second staff, and the chords are indicated above it: G, D, G, D, G, C, G, D, G. The score ends with a double bar line.

Level 1: Las Mañanitas

Las Mañanitas is a traditional birthday song sung early in the morning to wake up the birthday person. This folk song is in a 3/4 time, typically in A major. The left-hand chords remain within the I, IV, and V chord progression above the beautiful right-hand melodic line.

El Cascabel

Mexican Folk Song

Musical score for "El Cascabel" in 3/4 time, A minor. The score consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of no sharps or flats, and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is written on the first staff, and the chords are indicated above it: Am, F, E7, Am, F. The second staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of no sharps or flats, and a 3/4 time signature. The melody continues on the second staff, and the chords are indicated above it: E7, Am, F, E7. The score ends with a double bar line.

Level 2: El Cascabel

El Cascabel is a common Mexican folk song typically sung on a guitar like instrument. This song is based on just three chords: A minor, F major, and the E7 chord. The right-hand arpeggiated figure is an excellent integration of arpeggio practice in a harmonization example.

Mexican Music

Allá en el Rancho Grande

Musical notation for the first two lines of the song "Allá en el Rancho Grande". The first line contains measures 1-8, and the second line contains measures 9-16. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 2/4. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: F, F#dim7, C7/G, C7, F in the first line; and F, F#dim7, C7/G, C7, F in the second line. There are five horizontal lines below each staff, corresponding to the chord symbols.

Level 3: Allá en el Rancho Grande

Allá en el Rancho Grande ("Out at the Big Ranch") was popularized in the 1930s by a Mexican motion picture with the same title. It belongs to the ranchera genre of Mexican music, characterized by rural themes and topics of love or patriotism. Its harmonies feature diminished seventh chords and inversions of dominant seventh chords. The spirited nature of the music might be best captured with a broken chord "oom-pah" accompaniment pattern.

Cielito Lindo

Musical notation for the first two lines of the song "Cielito Lindo". The first line contains measures 1-5, and the second line contains measures 6-10. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: D, D7, G, A7, D in the first line; and D, A7, D in the second line. There are five horizontal lines below each staff, corresponding to the chord symbols.

Level 4: Cielito Lindo

An iconic Mexican song written in 1882, Cielito Lindo (loosely translated as "Lovely Sweet One") has become a symbol of Mexican nationalism. It is sung at social gatherings, celebratory events, and soccer matches as an anthem representing national unity and pride. The harmonies in the chorus features secondary dominants, and a waltz-style broken chord accompaniment may best suit the style of the song.

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