


Motivic Development for Young Composers and Improvisers


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Play this Sample Motive!

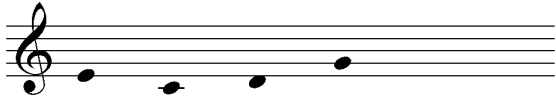
Concert



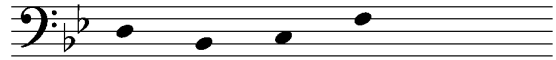
Alto Sax / Bari Sax




Clarinet / Bass Clarinet / Trumpet



Trombone / Bass

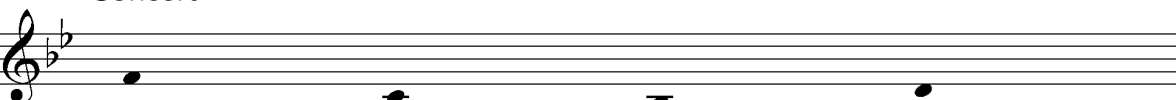


Horn in F




Retrograde

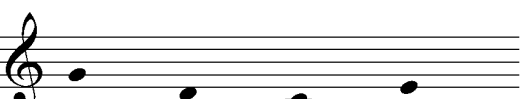
Concert



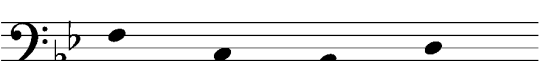
Alto Sax / Bari Sax




Clarinet / Bass Clarinet / Trumpet



Trombone / Bass

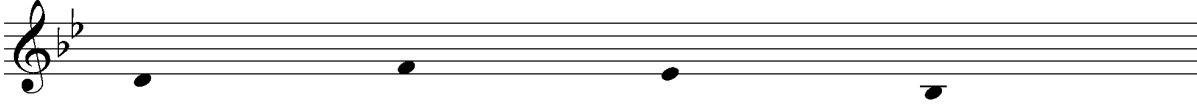


Horn in F




Inversion


Concert



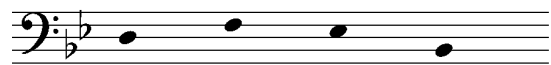
Alto Sax / Bari Sax



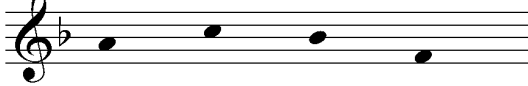
Clarinet / Bass Clarinet / Trumpet



Trombone / Bass



Horn in F



The image shows five staves of musical notation for an 'Inversion' exercise. The first staff is labeled 'Concert' and is in G major (one flat) with a treble clef. It contains four quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, and G4. The second staff is labeled 'Alto Sax / Bari Sax' and is in D major (two sharps) with a treble clef. It contains four quarter notes: D4, E4, F#4, and D4. The third staff is labeled 'Clarinet / Bass Clarinet / Trumpet' and is in G major (one flat) with a treble clef. It contains four quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, and G4. The fourth staff is labeled 'Trombone / Bass' and is in G major (one flat) with a bass clef. It contains four quarter notes: G3, A3, B3, and G3. The fifth staff is labeled 'Horn in F' and is in G major (one flat) with a treble clef. It contains four quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, and G4.

Diatonic Transposition

Concert



Alto Sax / Bari Sax




Clarinet / Bass Clarinet / Trumpet / Tenor Sax



Trombone / Bass



Horn in F



The image shows five staves of musical notation for a 'Diatonic Transposition' exercise. The first staff is labeled 'Concert' and is in G major (one flat) with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It contains a sequence of 12 quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3. The second staff is labeled 'Alto Sax / Bari Sax' and is in D major (two sharps) with a treble clef. It contains a sequence of 12 quarter notes: D4, E4, F#4, G#4, F#4, E4, D4, C#4, B#3, A#3, G#3, F#3. The third staff is labeled 'Clarinet / Bass Clarinet / Trumpet / Tenor Sax' and is in G major (one flat) with a treble clef. It contains a sequence of 12 quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3. The fourth staff is labeled 'Trombone / Bass' and is in G major (one flat) with a bass clef. It contains a sequence of 12 quarter notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3, B2. The fifth staff is labeled 'Horn in F' and is in G major (one flat) with a treble clef. It contains a sequence of 12 quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3.

Chromatic Transposition

Concert



Alto Sax / Bari Sax



Clarinet / Bass Clarinet / Trumpet / Tenor Sax



Trombone / Bass



Horn in F



Play Along with Me! ("On Broadway" changes) - Concert Pitch

(Try using notes from this motive!)



"On Broadway" Changes (Alto and Bari Sax)

(Try using notes from this motive!)

Musical notation for Alto and Bari Sax, measures 17-32. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. Measure 17 starts with a G7 chord and contains a four-note motive (G4, A4, B4, C5) followed by three measures of rhythmic slashes. Measure 21 starts with a G7 chord and contains four measures of rhythmic slashes. Measure 25 starts with a C7 chord and contains a four-note motive (C4, D4, E4, F#4) followed by three measures of rhythmic slashes, ending with a D7 chord and a four-note motive (D4, E4, F#4, G4). Measure 29 starts with a G7 chord and contains a four-note motive (G4, A4, B4, C5) followed by three measures of rhythmic slashes.

Trumpet / Clarinet / Soprano Sax / Tenor Sax

(Try using notes from this motive!)

Musical notation for Trumpet / Clarinet / Soprano Sax / Tenor Sax, measures 33-48. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. Measure 33 starts with a C7 chord and contains a four-note motive (C4, D4, E4, F#4) followed by three measures of rhythmic slashes. Measure 37 starts with a C7 chord and contains four measures of rhythmic slashes. Measure 41 starts with an F7 chord and contains a four-note motive (F4, G4, A4, B4) followed by three measures of rhythmic slashes, ending with a G7 chord and a four-note motive (G4, A4, B4, C5). Measure 45 starts with a C7 chord and contains a four-note motive (C4, D4, E4, F#4) followed by three measures of rhythmic slashes, ending with a double bar line and a bass clef.

Bass / Trombone (Concert Pitch)

(Try using notes from this motive!)

49

B \flat 7

53

B \flat 7

57

E \flat 7

F7

61

B \flat 7

Horn in F

(Try using notes from this motive!)

65

F7

69

F7

73

B \flat 7

C7

77

F7

Books on motivic development

- Humber's Music Theory text, **Jazz and Popular Music Theory** by Mike Downes and Brad Klump (4th edition), available to order from the Humber Lakeshore Campus Bookstore
- Jerry Bergonzi: **Inside Improvisation Series, Vol. 1: Melodic Structures** (published by Alfred Music)

YouTube links

- Jeremy Siskind - **How Do I Practice Motivic Development for Jazz Improvisation?** (YouTube, 20 minute video)
- David Bennett Thomas - **Analysis of Motivic Development- Bach's Invention No. 1 in C Major** (YouTube, 2:35 min)
- Sherrie Maricle: **How to Build a Drum Solo Using Motivic Development** (7 min, Jazz at Lincoln Center Channel)
- 8-bit Music Theory: **Music Theory Minute #2.4 - Motivic Development (or Why the Zelda Theme is Perfect)**

Clinician Bio

Two-time JUNO-nominee Shirantha Beddage is a baritone saxophonist, composer and educator from Toronto. He has released three critically-acclaimed albums as a leader, and his compositional skills have won him accolades at the Montreal Jazz Festival and placements in the Emmy-winning TV series " Fargo ". Shirantha teaches in the Humber College Bachelor of Music program, where he hosts the " Staff Lounge " Teaching and Learning podcast. He also adjudicates regularly at festivals across Canada. As an advocate for the use of technology in music education, his innovative teaching methods have earned him national recognition as an Apple Distinguished Educator. For more information, please visit <https://shiranthabeddage.com>

