

New School Jazz / Advanced Jazz Ear Training

Advanced Jazz Ear Training

Thursday 10am-11:50pm (Location TBA)

Armen Donelian, Instructor

p: (917) 974-7446 e: doneliaa@newschool.edu / armen.donelian@gmail.com

Required Course Text

Modus Novus by Lars Edlund

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Course Syllabus-Fall 2015

THIS IS AN ADVANCE COURSE. My goal is to enable students to develop greater aural fluency by exploring the challenges presented by modern music. The information you gain from this course may and should be used for your own continued development and independent self-study. I extend my support and guidance to you in your endeavor to become the best musician you can be.

COURSE METHODS may include:

- Hearing, singing, identifying, transcribing, reading, composing and performing the melodies, harmonies and rhythms of Modern Jazz and 20th Century Classical music;
- Integrating and balancing these skills as distinct yet connected proficiencies within your total musical ability. I may alter the speed and depth of approach to the curriculum to accommodate the proficiency of the class.

THREE REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL EAR TRAINING:

- A clear understanding of curriculum and methods
- Consistency and quality of practice and class attendance
- Honest and kindhearted acknowledgment of the result of one's effort.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: The demanding nature of the course content and the limited amount of class time require the Student's regular and prompt attendance as follows:

- More than TWO absences results in course failure.
- TWO latenesses count as one absence.

Lateness is defined as: "Entering the classroom anytime after the starting time (10am) published in the New School Class Schedule." Therefore, plan to arrive 5 minutes before class begins.

NOTE: There is *no class* on **November 26** (Thanksgiving).

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: It is your responsibility to promptly complete all homework assignments, and obtain assignments, handouts, or any material or information given out during your absence.

EXAMS: Four graded Exams will be given on **September 24, October 22, Novemer 19** and **December 17** (Final).

GRADING: At my discretion, your grade will be based on, but not limited to, an assessment of your performance in the following areas:

- Homework assignments
- In-class singing
- Attendance and Lateness
- Exams
(Failure of Final Exam constitutes grounds for failure of the course)

Your Final Grade is calculated by taking the average of three items:

$$\text{Final Grade} = \frac{\text{Attendance} + \text{Exams} + \text{Written Assignments}}{3}$$

Curriculum-Fall 2015

The course curriculum covers the harmonic and melodic vocabulary of modern Jazz and Classical music. Particular attention is paid to atonal chord progressions and voicings, and their application to composition and arranging as well as melodic conception.

•WEEK 1 - Review ET 2B Curriculum (Recommended text: Training the Ear Volume 2 by Armen Donelian) and begin Atonal Ear Training (Required text: Modus Novus by Lars Edlund), Chapter 1, Preparatory Exercises

•WEEK 2 – Begin MN, Ch 1, Melodies and begin Non-Triads w/root position 4th chords and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 1, Preparatory Exercises

•WEEK 3 –Begin MN, Ch 1, Chords and begin singing/dictation of Non-Triads w/root position 4th chords and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 1, Melodies and Preparatory Exercises

•WEEK 4 – Begin 4th Non-Triads inversions w/bass notes and more singing/dictation of MN, Ch 1, Chords EXAM 1 (MN Ch 1 Melodies, root position 4th Non-Triads)

•WEEK 5 – Begin MN, Ch 3, Preparatory Exercises and more singing/dictation 4th Non-Triads inversions w/bass notes and more singing/dictation of MN, Ch 1, Chords

•WEEK 6 - Begin MN, Ch 3, Melodies and begin singing “Isfahan” and “Hot House” and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 3, Preparatory Exercises and more singing/dictation 4th Non-Triads w/ inversions and bass notes and more singing/dictation of MN, Ch 1, Chords

•WEEK 7 – Begin root position 3rd Non-Triads and begin singing/listening “Secrets” and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 3, Melodies and Preparatory Exercises and more singing “Isfahan” and “Hot House” EXAM 2 (MN Ch 1 Chords, 4th Non-Triads inversions w/bass notes)

•WEEK 8 – Begin MN, Ch 3, Chords and more singing/dictation of root position 3rd Non-Triads and more singing/listening “Secrets,” “Isfahan” and “Hot House” and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 3, Melodies and Preparatory Exercises ASSIGN Transcription (TBA)

•WEEK 9 – Begin 3rd and 4th chords combined Non-Triads w/inversions and bass notes and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 3, Melodies and Preparatory Exercises

and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 3, Chords ASSESS singing of “Secrets,” “Isfahan” and “Hot House”

•WEEK 10 – Begin MN, Ch 5, Preparatory Exercises and begin Non-Triads w/root position 2^{nds} chords and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 3, Chords SUBMIT Transcription EXAM 3 (MN Ch 3 Melodies, Non-Triads 3rd chords combined w/4th chords w/inversions and bass notes)

•WEEK 11 – Begin MN, Ch 5, Melodies and begin singing/dictation “Resurrection” and begin singing/dictation “Fractured Dream” excerpt and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 5, Preparatory Exercises and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 3, Chords and more singing/dictation of Non-Triads w/root position 2^{nds} chords

•WEEK 12 – Begin Non-Triads 2^{nds} chords combined w/3rd chords and 4th chords w/inversions and bass notes and more singing/dictation of Non-Triads w/root position 2^{nds} chords and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 5, Melodies and Preparatory Exercises and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 3, Chords and more singing/dictation “Resurrection,” “Fractured Dream” REVIEW Transcription In-Class

•WEEK 13 – Begin MN Ch 5, Chords and more singing/dictation Non-Triads 2^{nds} chords combined w/3rd chords and 4th chords w/inversions and bass notes and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 5, Melodies and Preparatory Exercises and more singing/dictation “Resurrection,” “Fractured Dream” EXAM 4 (MN Ch 3 Chords, Non-Triads w/root position 2^{nds} chords)

•WEEK 14 – Play/listen Scriabin excerpt, Messaien excerpt and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 5, Chords and more singing/dictation Non-Triads 2^{nds} chords combined w/3rd chords and 4th chords w/inversions and bass notes and more singing/dictation MN, Ch 5, Melodies and Preparatory Exercises ASSESS singing of “Resurrection,” “Fractured Dream”

•WEEK 15 – FINAL EXAM (MN, Ch 1, 3, 5 and Non-Triads w/inversions and bass notes, Transcription excerpt)

This course may be dropped until **October 14**. Good luck and have a great semester!