

T.I.P.P. SERIES FOR HARP QUARTET
(THEORY IN PRACTICE AND PERFORMANCE)

UNIT: HARMONY

LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE

Musical Steps

A Relative Waltz

A la Mode

Spherical

(Theory Worksheet Included)

MAURICE DRAUGHN



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ABOUT THE T.I.P.P. SERIES

The T.I.P.P. Series (Theory in Practice and Performance) is a multi-level set of instructional and performance pieces designed to introduce student harpists to the fundamentals of theory – harmony and rhythm. The pieces contained in each set may also be used as performance pieces in the form of a suite or stand-alone work.

The concept for the T.I.P.P. Series arose from the composers' interest in creating works for students in the H.I.P.P. program (Harp Instruction and Performance Program), an afterschool program that introduces young learners to the harp. Students were able to build their knowledge of theory as they developed technique on the harp. Each piece has "free-style fingering" which allows the instructor to craft fingering conducive to the level and physique of the student.

ABOUT MUSICAL STEPS

A Relative Waltz is based on the relation between major and minor keys that share the same key signature. The waltz takes the listener on a whimsically journey of keys through a harmonic interplay of the major keys and their relative minor.

A la Mode features the harmonic qualities of the seven modes. The piece begins with a procession of scales moving in the shape of a pie overlaid with a flowing accompaniment line. *A la Mode* depicts a constant shift in tonality as it passes between each mode. The piece eventually fades away until it concludes on a cluster of fifths.

Spherical is atmospheric in nature, capturing the harmonic series of sound through the use of open fifths and harmonics. The piece is set in five in homage to the concept of the circle of fifths. The melodic and accompaniment lines compliment each other as they navigate through each key. An extended version of the opening material leads into a sweeping arpeggio that hovers over a sonorous chord.

Musical Steps can be paired with *Musical Branches* to create the suite below.

Steps and Branches

A Relative Waltz

A la Mode

Spherical

Simplicity

Contrary

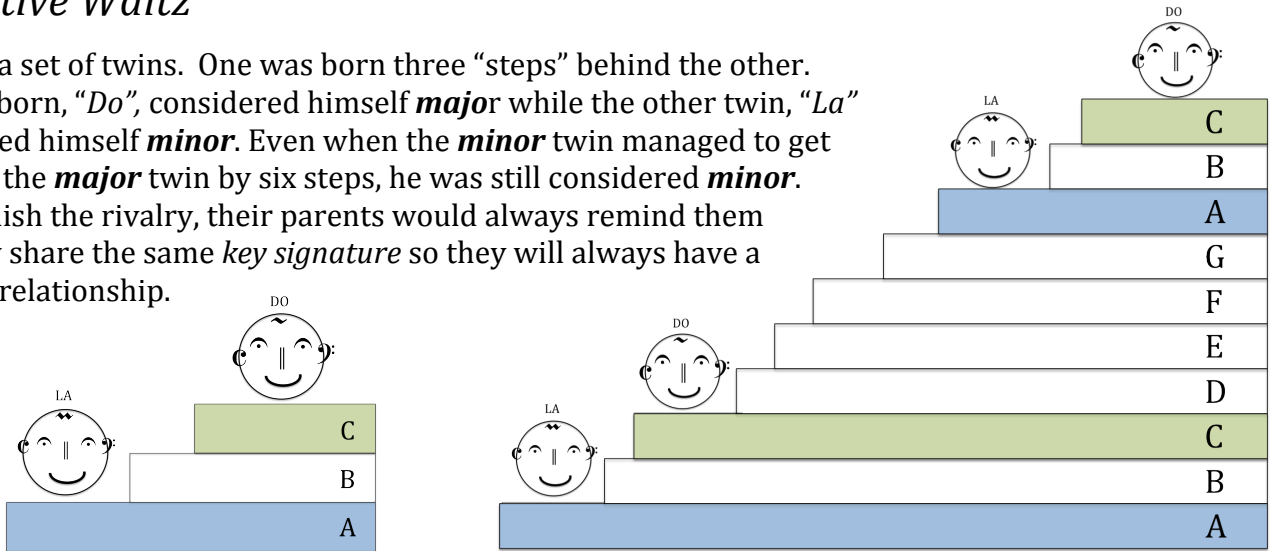
Slide on Five

Musical Steps Worksheet

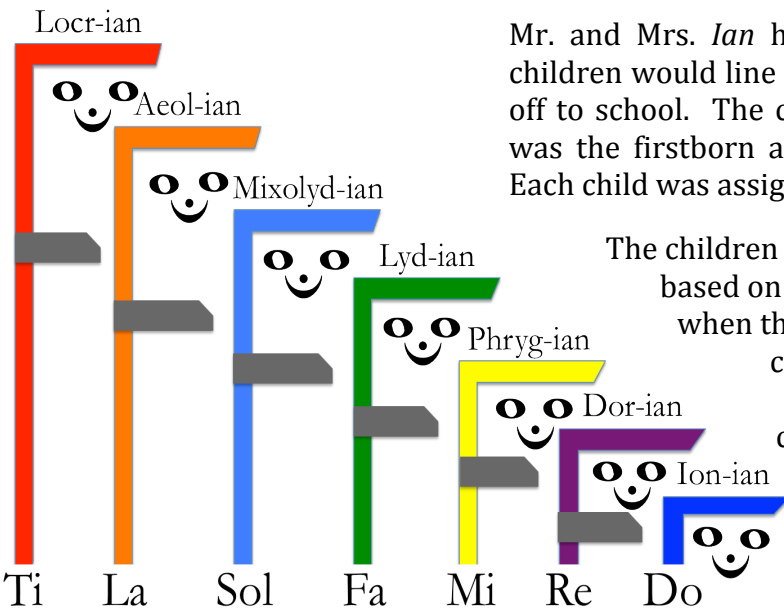
Music is comprised of a series of keys and scales. Scales are a combination of whole and half steps. Each piece highlights the relation between scales and keys. The following exercises will help you to identify the various types of scale in each movement of *Musical Steps*.

A Relative Waltz

Imagine a set of twins. One was born three “steps” behind the other. The firstborn, “Do”, considered himself **major** while the other twin, “La” considered himself **minor**. Even when the **minor** twin managed to get ahead of the **major** twin by six steps, he was still considered **minor**. To diminish the rivalry, their parents would always remind them that they share the same *key signature* so they will always have a **relative** relationship.



A la Mode

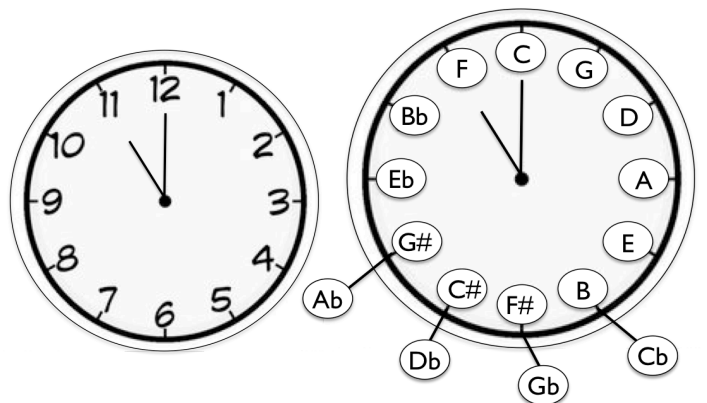


Mr. and Mrs. *Ian* had seven children. Every morning the *Ian* children would line up on the stairs to sing a song before heading off to school. The children stood in order from first to last. **Ion** was the firstborn and **Locr** was the seventh or youngest child. Each child was assigned a solfège syllable to sing.

The children would sing a set of pitches in successive order based on the name called by their parents. For instance when their parents called out “**Lyd-ian**” (**Lydian**), the children would sing a scale starting with *fa* and ending with *fa* (*fa-sol-la-ti-do-re-mi-fa*). The children always sang a different scale or **mode** each day starting with a different person.

Spherical

The **Circle of Fifths** is like a musical “key” clock. There are five steps between each key which is similar to the five-minute intervals on a regular clock.

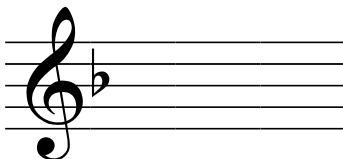


Musical Steps Worksheet, continued

Now it is your turn to identify Musical Steps! Complete each of the following exercises:

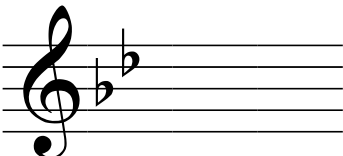
Match the major key and relative minor with the correct key signature.

Bb Major



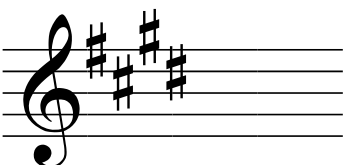
C# minor

E Major



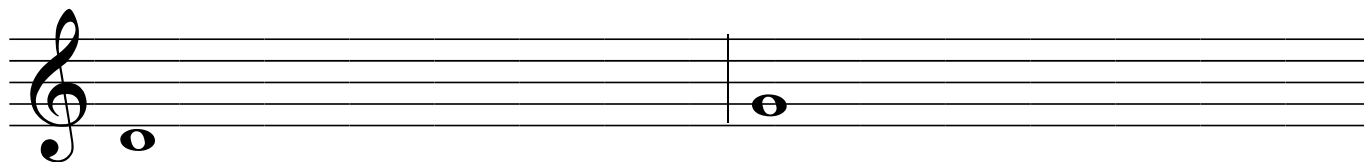
D minor

F Major



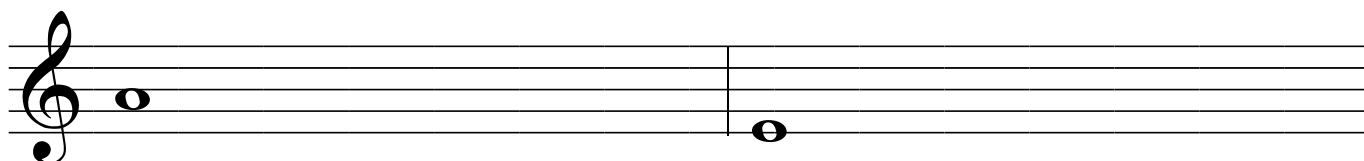
G minor

Write out the scale for the following modes below.



Dorian

Mixolydian



Aeolian

Phrygian

Fill in the clock with minor keys in the circle of fifths.

~~a~~ minor

b minor

eb minor

b^b minor

f minor

ab minor

g minor

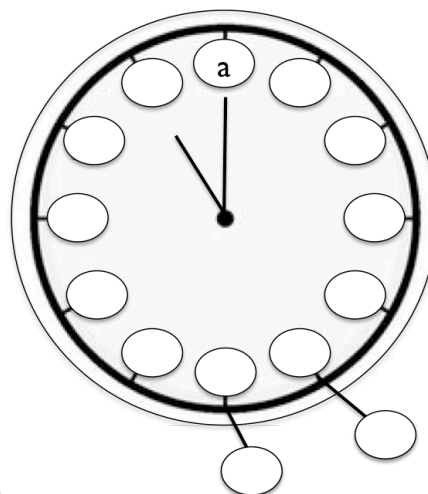
d minor

c minor

f# minor

c# minor

e minor



Musical Steps

1. A Relative Waltz

Maurice Draughn

Score

♩ = 112

Harp 1
f *mf*
C#

Harp 2
f *mf*
C#

Harp 3
mf *mf* *f*
G#

Harp 4
mf *mf* *f*
D#

Harp 1
mp *mf*
G# D# A#

Harp 2
mp *mf*
G# E# D# A#

Harp 3
mp *mf*
A# D# B# E#

Harp 4
mp *mf*
A# B# E#