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

UNIT: RHYTHM LEVEL: BEGINNING

Musical Time

Clockwork
Tick-Tock
Intervals

(Theory Worksheet Included)

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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 TIME

Clockwork depicts the layers of synchronized mechanisms found inside of a traditional clock. The piece begins with open fifths followed by an ostinato in duple meter that builds momentum. The melodic material is intertwined with the ostinato concluding with a splash of rhythmic glissandi.

Tick-Tock imitates the swinging pendulum of a grandfather clock with each downbeat. The accompaniment is played across the three beats in each measure (triple meter) in the style of a waltz. A lyrical melody glides across the accompaniment figure as dancers would across the floor of a ballroom.

Interval begins with a fanfare that fades into a melody reminiscent of a nursery rhyme. The title of this movement is in reference to the intervals of time. Musical phrases can be played in a canon when each part enters according to a set time interval in relation to the other parts. In this piece, the time intervals are every four beats (quadruple meter).

Musical Motions can be paired with Musical Time to create the suite below.

Motions and Time

Step, Skip, Jump Leap, Soar, Fly Five Tone Blues Clockwork Tick-Tock Intervals

Musical Time Worksheet

Music and time are alike in so many ways. Music has a steady pulse along with different groupings of beats. The following exercises will help you to identify the various types of meters found in each movement of *Musical Time*.

Once upon a time there was a lonely beat.

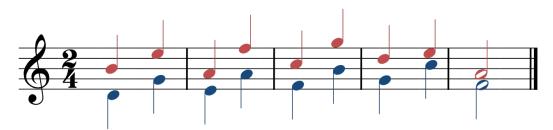


One day the lonely beat met another beat walking down the staff.

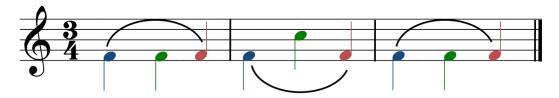


The two beats became friends completing the measure.

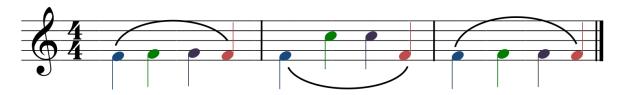
They played on the staff jumping over the barlines in rhythm. The two beats kept a steady pulse in two creating *duple* meter – two beats per measure.



The two beats wanted to play a game of jump rope. However, they needed a third beat to play the game. Soon after, another beat walked up to them on the staff with a jump rope. The three beats began to play a game of jump rope creating *triple* meter – three beats per measure.



The three beats were having so much fun that another beat walked up to them to play along. The fourth beat joined in and they all played together creating *quadruple* meter – four beats per measure.



Musical Time Worksheet, continued

Now it is your turn to explore the various meters of Musical Time! Complete each of the following exercises using the notes/pitches below:

Clockwork

Remember *duple meter* has two beats per measure. Fill in the missing beats.



Tick-Tock

Remember *triple meter* has three beats per measure. Fill in the missing beats.



Interval

Remember *quadruple meter* has four beats per measure. Fill in the missing beats.



Musical Time

1. Clockwork

Maurice Draughn

