

Chapter 3 – Basics III – Rhythms

Basic Values

1. Notes and Rests
 - The names: whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, thirty-second, etc...
2. The Dot
 - Adds one half the value of the original note
 - Example: Dotted quarter note = $1 \frac{1}{2}$ beats or $1+2$
3. Division of two – division of three
 - Borrowed division
 - Indicated with a bracket (sometimes) and number
 - i.e. “three in the space of two”

Early Rhythmic Notation

1. France of Cologne in 1820
 - Was a German music theorist who was one of the most influential theorists of the late Medieval era. He was the first to propose an idea which was to transform music notation permanently: that the duration of any note should be determined by its appearance on the page, and not from context alone.
 - Longe – quarter note
 - Breva – eighth note
2. Ars Nova and Time Signatures
 - Latin: “New Art”
 - Ars nova was a stylistic period in music of the Late Middle Ages, centered in France, which encompassed the period roughly from the preparation of the Roman de Fauvel (1310 and 1314) until the death of Machaut (1377). Sometimes the term is used more generally and refers to all European polyphonic music of the 14th century.
 - Notice the dot used for three divisions

Tempo

1. How long a rest or sound is actually held
 - The rate of recurrence within the specified meter
2. After 1750
 - Standard notation
3. Italian words
 - Presto – very fast
 - Allegro – fast and bright or “march tempo”
 - Andante – a walking pace
 - Largo – very slow
 - Grave – slow and solemn
 - Lento – very slow
 - Vivace – lively and fast

- Adagio – slow and stately
- Andantino – alternatively faster or slower than andante
- Moderato - moderately
- Accelerando – speeding up
- Ritardando – immediate slowing down
- Ritenuto – slightly slower, temporarily holding back
- Rubato – free adjustment of tempo for expressive purposes

Tempo II

1. Words indicate tempo in a very general way
2. M.M-Maelzel's metronome
3. Johann Maelzel – 1816
4. Per second
5. Tempered time=artistic expression

Beat and Groupings

1. Beat=equal lengths of time
2. Grouping beats – a natural feeling of having one beat assume a more important role than the others
 - 2/4: 1 2
>
 - 3/4: 1 2 3
>
 - 4/4: 1 2 3 4
>
3. Groupings of 2, 3, 4
 - 6/8: grouped into sets of two
 - 9/8: grouped into sets of three
 - 12/8: grouped into sets of four

Simple and Compound Meter

1. Simple – two divisions of the beat
 - 2/4, 3/4, 4/4
2. Compound – three divisions of the beat
 - 6/8, 9/8, 12/8, 15/8

Time Signature

1. The number of beats in each group
2. The division of the beat
3. The notation to be used
4. Hint: Top number-how many, bottom number-what kind
5. Example: 3/4 - Three beats in a measure and the quarter note gets one beat
6/8 – Six beats in a measure and the eighth note gets one beat

Simple Time Signatures

Beat Note	2 beats per (duple)	3 beats per (triple)	4 beats per (quadruple)
Whole note	2	3	4
	1	1	1
Half note	2	3	4
	2	2	2
Quarter note	2	3	4
	4	4	4
Eighth note	2	3	4
	8	8	8
Sixteenth note	2	3	4
	16	16	16
Thirty-second note	2	3	4
	32	32	32

Compound Time

1. 6,9,12,15
2. Top number-the beat divisions, not the beat (you must divide by 3)
3. Bottom number-the note value of the beat division (think of the next larger note value with a dot added to it)

Compound Time Signatures

Beat note	2 beats per (duple)	3 beats per (triple)	4 beats per (quadruple)
Dotted whole note	6	9	12
	2	2	2
Dotted half note	6	9	12
	4	4	4
Dotted quarter note	6	9	12
	8	8	8
Dotted eighth note	6	9	12
	16	16	16
Dotted sixteenth note	6	9	12
	32	32	32

Time Signatures and Tempo

1. Fast tempos
 - A half note in the tempo marking
 - Example using 4/4 and two beats per measure

- Provides different emphasis
2. Slow tempos
 - Compound times with the lower number indicating the beat

Numerators of 5 and 7

1. 5 – a group of three and two in either order
 - example: 5/4 – conduct in two
2. 7 – a group of three and two groups of two in any order
 - example: 7/8 – conduct in three

Other Rhythmic Ideas

1. Beaming
 - Beams show the beat units
 - Stem direction is usually in the direction of most of the notes
 - Beaming with text shows the syllables that are sung
2. Duplets, Triplets, and Quadruplets
 - Duplet – two in the space of three (compound time)
 - Triplet – three in the space of two (simple time)
 - Quadruplet – two sets of duplets