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JMTP - Online Website Reviews

JMTP-Online Editorial Board

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Title: International Music Score Library Project (IMSLP)

Author: Petrucci Music Library (a wiki)

URL: <http://imslp.org/wiki>

Subscription: not required

Level: n/a

Description: from the website: This wiki is a repository for scans and newly notated editions of anything that is in the public domain. As such, the collection is limited to works written before 1927 and those that users have actually uploaded to the site.

Special Features: complete works from the common practice period and before.

Title: Analytical Techniques (Online Resources)

Author: Kenneth R. Rumery, Northern Arizona University

URL: http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~krr2/musan_linx.html

Subscription: not required

Level: college level

Description: An extensive list of examples of various concepts, including texture, voice leading reduction, motivic/melodic analysis, and form. There is some explanatory text, but the vast majority of the examples are presented without explanation. Since this website is clearly intended to accompany a particular course (i.e., it is not intended to be a general guide for a broad audience), the examples contain some idiosyncratic analytical symbols and some of the text includes further idiosyncrasies and/or inaccuracies, meaning that instructors should be prepared to interpret a lot of this material. Caveat emptor!

Special Features: brief notated examples on a breadth of topics, including melody, harmony, texture, form, post-tonal analysis; a few quizzes and assignments

Title: Internet Music Theory Database

Author: Timothy Cutler, Cleveland Institute of Music

URL: <http://musictheoryexamples.com>

Subscription: not required

Level: beginning through college

Description: From the website: “The goal of this project is to provide the music community with an online database of tonal music theory examples from the classical repertoire.” Further on: “For a couple of reasons few of the examples contain analysis. First, I wish to impart my own analytical philosophy as little as possible; it is not important that we all interpret these passages similarly. And second, unannotated scores allow teachers to create assignments directly from the database.” Each example includes both notation and a recording.

Special Features: musical examples, organized according to pedagogical topic, begins with scales and voice leading, but focuses primarily on harmonic analysis from the basics through advanced chromatic harmonies

Title: Austin Patty Theory

Author: Austin Patty, Lee University School of Music, Cleveland, Tennessee

URL: <http://www.austinpattytheory.com/music-theory/unit-1-exam-theory-iii-a-virtual-review-session/>

Subscription: Free.

Level: AP Music, college, graduate level, teachers.

Description: Video with supporting documentation of popular chord symbols, harmonic progression phrase models, counterpoint: suspensions and retardations, compound melody, model Schenkerian analysis, phrase expansions, secondary dominants, embellishing chords. Analyses of Beethoven, Schubert, Mozart, Haydn, Verdi, Brahms and the Beatles. Virtual exam video review sessions. Aural skill lessons in full video format that you can participate along with class activities.

Title: Learning and Loving Music Theory

Author: Robert Reno, Irvine CA (949) 798-9641

URL: www.music-theory.ascensionsounds.com

Subscription: Free subscription for new posting notifications.

Level: High school, first-year college, fundamentals, AP.

Description: All music theory topics from high school through university-level courses are presented in a friendly, accessible way. This is a practical resource for the student already studying music theory. Teacher resources include: lesson plans, teaching methods, and printable examples. Plenty of graphics, audio examples, as well as flash slideshows demonstrating various music theory concepts.

Special Features: Hundreds of harmonic progressions from simple to complex are written out in every major and minor key (download). Manuscript paper.

Title: musictheory.net

Author: Ricci Adams

URL: <http://www.musictheory.net>

Subscription: Free full access. Donations accepted

Level: First year theory courses, high school.

Description: Lessons explained through Flash animations with audio of each theory topic. Staves and clefs through Neapolitan chords (no modulation or more advanced chromaticism.) Eartraining drills, brass trainer (trumpet, trombone, French horn, tuba, and euphonium fingering).

Special Features: Translations available in six languages. Pop-up keyboard available throughout to “play-along” with the lessons. Print option for any page. Compositional tools, chord calculator (set a clef, key and select a Roman Numeral), 12-tone matrix generator, tempo tapper, staff paper generator. Offline Apps available for iPhone, iPod, and iPad.

Title: Musiccards.net

Author: Peter Hudson

URL: <http://www.musiccards.net/>

Subscription: not required

Level: beginner, high school, AP, fundamentals, first-year college theory

Description: A collection of online flash cards intended to drill music theory basics. Topics include: note names, major and minor key signatures, simple M/m/P intervals (plus tritone), triads, and piano and guitar note names. Cards are highly customizable, with options selecting parameters like number of ledger lines and available clefs. There is no sound.

Title: teoría: Music Theory Web (English and Spanish)

Author: José Rodríguez Alvira, Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico

URL: <http://www.teoria.com>

Subscription: Free to access and use the site. Optional annual membership (\$20/individual or \$75/5 license package) allows the subscriber to run exercises and save scores to a database, many teacher options for student assessment, allows downloading and installing *teoria.com* on personal computer (faster), no on-screen ads. Donations are accepted.

Level: High school, college, AP, aural skills.

Description: All music theory topics from high school through university-level courses are presented in an accessible way. Tutorials, exercises, reference, and articles. This is a practical resource for the student already studying music theory. Audio examples for most exercises.

Special Features: Scholarly articles on music theory and analysis, jazz progressions and extended chords for ear training, timer records duration needed for exercise completion, two voice dictation exercises, secondary dominants, chromatic harmony, nonharmonic tones, modulation, harmonic function and analysis presented audio examples. Comprehensive music theory reference dictionary, article submissions considered for publication.

Title: Big Ears: The Original Online Ear Trainer

Author: Michael Ossmann

URL: <http://www.ossmann.com/bigears/index.html>

Subscription: not required

Level: beginning

Description: A java-based melodic interval driller. Interval sizes range from simple (P1-P8) through compound (m9-P11). The student or teacher can select which intervals should be drilled.

Special Features: A small interactive keyboard on which students can click consecutive notes and see what interval they've created (note: interval analysis favors diatonic intervals, though enharmonic equivalents are listed in the readout).

Title: 8notes.com

Author: Ricci Adams

URL: <http://www.8notes.com/theory/>

Subscription: not required

Level: mostly beginner/high school/first-year theory

Description: A collection of forty-six tutorials on topics ranging from fundamentals through some chromatic harmony.

Title: G Major Music Theory

Author: Gilbert DeBenedetti, University of Pittsburgh

URL: <http://www.gmajormusictheory.org>

Subscription: not required

Level: High school, college, AP, aural skills, contextual listening.

Description: Comprehensive fundamentals program in chapter format (19 units: note names to the dominant V7 chord) with corresponding worksheets/flash cards, short contextual musical examples with teacher lesson plans, harmonic dictation examples with answer sheets/solutions (can be downloaded to 4 CDs). Examples include: cadences, dominant expansions with cadential 6/4, dominant preparations, tonic expansions, vi leading to dominant preparations, dominant and leading tone sevenths, secondary dominants.

Special Features: Extensive contextual listening audio examples, free piano and guitar music, music humor page, virtual flash cards, audio excerpts for melodic organization and devices, bass and soprano voices louder on dictation examples.

Title: ComposerTools.com

Author: Paul Nelson

URL: <http://www.composertools.com/>

Subscription: not required

Level: advanced college

Description: Provides some basic tools for twentieth-century theory, analysis, and composition: a twelve-tone matrix calculator, a twelve-tone row analyzer, a prime-form calculator, and other more advanced tools. Site also includes a tutorial on pitch-class sets (HTML and PDF) and a list of the prime forms, as well as a dictionary intended to help both professionals and amateurs learn to talk about music more effectively.

Special Features: Includes a program for analyzing one's own compositions called "MusicGraph." It will, according to the website, "produce graphs of Interval Content, Total Volume, Notes per second, intensity, and dissonance."