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Polytonal Exercise #1

Scale #21
for Piano / Keyboard

Piano Ex. 1 on Scale #21 (Octatonic Scale)

This exercise is designed to introduce Scale #21, also known as the "Octatonic Scale."
This Scale is unique and special for several reasons:

- 1) This Scale has got 4 different root tones, all of them are equal.
- 2) All of our 7 main modes (also known as Church Modes) have 7 different Scale tones, Scale #21 has 8 different Scale tones.
- 3) You can start Scale #21 on three different notes: C (= Poly #1), Db (= Poly #2) and D (= Poly #3). Every starting position contains 4 different root tones.
- 3) The distance between Scale tones alternate between half steps and whole steps, hence, its *Horizontal Formula* is: 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2.

This all is very useful in understanding and playing Jazz and progressive music. Use these exercises to show your fingers new places where they can go to.

♩ = 200

Piano

Poly #1

SVL
(Substitute Voice-Leading)

3

Pno.

SVL

5

Pno.

Poly #2

Pno.

7

SVL

Detailed description: This system contains measures 7 and 8. The right hand (treble clef) features a descending eighth-note scale: B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B2. The left hand (bass clef) has a sparse accompaniment with notes: B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1. A 'SVL' annotation is placed above the first bass note. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Pno.

9

Poly #3

SVL

Detailed description: This system contains measures 9 and 10. The right hand (treble clef) features a descending eighth-note scale: B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B2. The left hand (bass clef) has a sparse accompaniment with notes: B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1. A 'Poly #3' annotation is placed above the first bass note, and an 'SVL' annotation is placed above the second bass note. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Pno.

11

SVL

Detailed description: This system contains measures 11 and 12. The right hand (treble clef) features a descending eighth-note scale: B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B2. The left hand (bass clef) has a sparse accompaniment with notes: B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1. An 'SVL' annotation is placed above the first bass note. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Pno.

13

Poly #1

SVL

Detailed description: This system contains measures 13 and 14. The right hand (treble clef) features a descending eighth-note scale: B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B2. The left hand (bass clef) has a sparse accompaniment with notes: B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1. A 'Poly #1' annotation is placed above the first bass note, and an 'SVL' annotation is placed above the second bass note. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Pno.

15

Detailed description: This system contains measures 15 and 16. The right hand (treble clef) features a descending eighth-note scale: B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B2. The left hand (bass clef) has a sparse accompaniment with notes: B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1. The system concludes with a double bar line.

The image shows a piano score for exercise 4, consisting of four systems of music. Each system is labeled 'Pno.' on the left. The first system starts at measure 17 and includes the annotation 'Poly #2' in the treble clef and 'SVL' in the bass clef. The second system starts at measure 19 and includes 'SVL' in the bass clef. The third system starts at measure 21 and includes 'Poly #3' in the treble clef and 'SVL' in the bass clef. The fourth system starts at measure 23 and ends with a double bar line. The music is written in a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The notation includes various intervals, chords, and melodic lines in both hands.

We hope you enjoyed this exercise. If you are interested in becoming a better musician, arranger and/or composer, please get in touch with us and let's bring more good music to this world together!

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