

Harmony; Composition And Performance Of A Chord Progression

Compose and perform a piece of **your own** music, using the idea of **pitch** to form a **chord progression**.

Useful terms and ideas to consider when doing this task:

Note: A single musical sound.

Pitch: How "high" or "low" a musical note sounds.

Scale: A series of non-repeated pitches in ascending or descending order.

Chord: A selection of usually three, but rarely more than four notes sounded at the same time. The pitch of each note in a chord is usually derived from either the even or odd numbered pitches of a scale.

Chord progression: A sequence of four to twelve chords, often being the basis for the form of a complete musical work. A chord progression may, and usually does, contain repeated chords. A chord progression may, and usually is, designed to be repeated any number of times.

Melody: A sequence of notes played one at a time in a certain order. The highest pitched notes of a chord progression forms what can be heard as a melody.

Bass line: The lowest pitched notes of a chord progression forms a type of melody referred to as a "bass line".

So...

1. Compose a piece of music.

- Create a "Pitch Set": select between 5 and 7 different pitches and arrange them ascendingly as a "scale".
- Select three or four pitches from your scale that you think sound effective when played at the same time. This forms a chord. Repeat this step to form a chord that begins on every note of your scale.
- Arrange your chords into an order that you think sounds effective. **You may repeat chords, and you don't need to use all of them.**
- Your complete chord progression should contain at least twelve chords (sixteen chords, in two groups of eight is commonly regarded as normal).
- If you have time, you might like to devise a rhythm to which your chord progression should sound, and/or a melody to go along with your chord progression.

2. Write your music down.

- Conventional notation is most suitable, but you may invent your own method of notation.
- It must be easily readable by other people (neat, clear, and simple).
- It must have a title and your name.

3. Perform your music as a soloist, group, class, or recording.

4. Submit a copy of your score before **[Date TBA]**.