

Some Classical Tunes – For Folks Musicians

Introduction

Composers of Classical music have often borrowed folk melodies to use in themes in their compositions. So it stands to reason that folk musicians can borrow music that is considered “classical” to add to their repertoires. This workshop is not intended to teach any classical music methods, but is intended more as a foray down a classical music path and to help round out ones repertoire. There is no inherent reason why a good folk ensemble cannot perform some of the music that a classical string quartet might cover.

Let’s explore a few common classical melodies, and try to learn them by ear. Then we will explore some popular works by Bach, Pachelbel, and Vivaldi. The written scores and chords are presented for these pieces.

Some Common Classical Music Themes that are Easy to Learn by Ear

Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star – An old folk Melody that has been borrowed by classical composers including Herr Mozart

Ode To Joy – A theme from *Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony*

Masterpiece Theatre Theme – *Fanfare Rondo* by Jean-Joseph Mouret

Fanfare for the Common Man – Aaron Copeland’s masterpiece integrating many American folk themes including *Simple Gifts*.

Lone Ranger Theme – *The William Tell Overture* by Gioachina Rossini...Hi-Ho Silver

Bridal Chorus (Here Comes the Bride) – from *Lohengrin*, an opera by Richard Wagner

Others to Consider:

Kill The Rabbit (Theme from Bugs Bunny) – *Ride of the Valkyries* by Richard Wagner

Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony (dot, dot, dot, dash)

Theme form 2001, A Space Odyssey – *Dawn* from *Thus Spake Zarathustra* by Richard Strauss)

Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desire - Bach

Some history: Bach wrote this music as part of a cantata “*Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben*” in 1716. The main choral theme was not actually written by Bach. He adapted the popular melody used in Lutheran worship *Werde munter, mein Gemüte* written by Johann Schop in 1641. Schop’s original melody can be found in Lutheran Hymnals (Hymn number 612 in the 1912 Lutheran Hymnal.)

Today “*Jesu*” is one of Bach’s most recognizable works, and is often used in Weddings, at Christmas and in other ceremonies. The arrangement presented here that was written for the hammered dulcimer includes chords, which can be played on a guitar or any other instrument. This score follows published classical scores and can be used to accompany classical musicians, who are using published scores. (No guarantees so make sure you are on the same page ☺)

Cannon in D - Pachelbel

Written by Johann Pachelbel before the 1700’s, this piece was rediscovered and published in 1919. It is now very popular and recognizable, and often used in weddings.

Largo - Concerto D Major for Lute

The “Largo” is the slow movement in the three-movement Baroque style concerto. *Concerto in D Major for the Lute* is one of Vivaldi’s many wonderful concertos. While this piece is not as popular as the two others presented here, it is a common piece used in classical programs, and has been used in movie sounds tracks.

Internet References:

Wikipedia:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesu,_Joy_of_Man%27s_Desiring

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johann_Schopchop

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pachelbel%27s_Canon

Musicnet:

<http://www.musicnet.org/robokopp/19123.html>

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J.S. Bach
arr: C. Cole

G C G Em Am D

G C G Em Am D G G C

D C G D D G C G Em

Am D G C G Em Am

D G C G Em Am D G C

D C G D D G C G Em

Am D G C G Em Am C

D G C G Em Am C D

Jusu

G D Am F Dm E Am Dm

Am F Dm E Am G C Dm G

C F G C G D G C G Em

C G D D G C G Em

Am D G G/F Am D G Em

C D G C G Em Am C

D G C G Em C D

G G

Largo - Concerto D Major for Lute

A. Vivaldi

5

10

15

20

24

29

33

HD Arrangemen C. Cole

About The Author:

Cliff Cole purchased his first hammered dulcimer in 1985, from Sam Rizzetta. At the time he was playing drums in a blues band. Prior to taking up the dulcimer, he studied drums and percussion for ten years. Since the age of fifteen Cliff has played in numerous rock, blues, jazz, zydeco and folk ensembles. Folk instruments are where the heart is.

Cliff plays the hammered dulcimer in the family folk group "DayBreak," which has been together since 1989. They have made several recordings, including *Lost Cave*, which was recorded live inside of Lost River Caverns in Hellertown, PA, *Little Steps*, and *Autumn Calling*, which features many of Cliff's original tunes. They also have produced two Christmas CD's one named *Unity; Unique Music for Christmas* and a live holiday concert recorded in December of 2002. Cliff also helped produced a wonderful CD with his daughter Emily Rose Cole, called *I Wanna Know* that was released in 2012.

DayBreak's music is available on CD-Baby, iTunes, and many other digital download stores found on the web.

Cliff is very active in the folk scene. He is on the board of Perkasio Patchwork Coffeehouse, where he often works the soundboard. He sometimes does sound at Godfrey Daniel's a folk club in Bethlehem, PA. Cliff is also a founding member of the Quakertown Area Dulcimer and Autoharp Society ([QUADAS](#).) He has been a workshop leader at many dulcimer festivals through the years.

James Jones made Cliff's hammered dulcimer. The full sized 2/16/18/7 instrument covers four octaves and has dampening pedal. For more information about James Jones instruments go to his web site: <http://www.jamesjonesinstruments.com>

Cliff lives with his lovely wife, Pamela, in Quakertown, Pennsylvania. He works as a computer hardware test engineer for the Intel Corporation, in an office located in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania.

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