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Beyond the Basics: Next Steps for Keyboard Players

Calvin Symposium on Worship: Word, Music, Vision, Action

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BEYOND THE BASICS:

NEXT STEPS FOR KEYBOARD PLAYERS,

BY MATTHEW WESTERHOLM, MWESTERHOLM@GMAIL.COM

Prepared for Calvin Institute of Christian Worship's 2010 Symposium

HISTORICAL BACKDROP

It was the organist and l . . .



WHAT ARE THE “BASICS”?

a. The BOX.



b. The BROKEN BOX.

c. Using inversions to smooth the voicings.

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INTO THE GREAT BEYOND

1) ADDING TO THE BOX

a. Fills

1. "Lazy Pinky" fills.



in context . . .



2) RE-HARMONIZING

a. Increasing the motion

Musical notation showing a sequence of chords: C, G, Am, F, C. The melody consists of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.

i. The Borrowed "5"

Musical notation showing a sequence of chords: C, E7, Am, C7, F, G7, C. The melody consists of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.

ii. Borrowing the "2 > 5"

Musical notation showing a sequence of chords: C, Bø, E7, Am, Gm7, C7, F, Dm7, G7, C. The melody consists of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.

b. Spicing up the "5"

Musical notation showing a sequence of chords: 16 Dm7, G7, C, A7, Dm7, G7(♯9), C, A7(♯9), Dm7, G7(♭9), C, A7(♯9), Dm7, G7(♭13), C. The melody consists of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.

3) PHILOSOPHICAL

a. Playing in a band

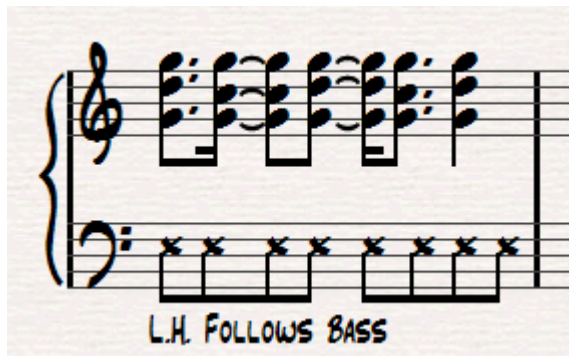
a. Melody

b. Ground Rhythm

i. "The River"



ii. "The Edge"



c. Counter Melody



d. Color

i. Synths

- b. "Dealing with 3"
 - a. "On"



- b. "Push" (or "Charleston")



- c. "Nudge" or "Club Beat"



4) NOW WHAT?

- a. Multiple keys
- b. Listen with intent to "nick."
 - a. Rock/Pop
 - i. Ben Shive (www.benshive.com) - Christian
 - ii. Bruce Hornsby (www.brucehornsby.com)
 - iii. Ben Folds (www.benfolds.com) – listener discretion advised.
 - iv. Matt Rollings (www.mattrollings.com)
 - v. Kenny Kirkland (1955–1998)
(<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=7167098302>)
 - b. Jazz
 - i. Brad Mehldau (www.bradmehldau.com)
 - ii. Peter Martin (www.petermartinmusic.com) with free video lessons!
 - c. Gospel
 - i. Aaron Lindsey (www.aaronlindsey.com) – often performs with Israel Houghton
 - ii. P.J. Morgan (<http://www.hearandplay.com/pjinterview.html>)