

Arranging Workshop

“Reduce, Rework, Reharmonize”: 3R’s of creating beautiful music from a lead sheet



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Presentation Summary: Lead sheet notation, used commonly in jazz, is an excellent tool for studying arranging and improvisation. This lecture shows how to deconstruct lead sheets to build an arrangement to play your favorite song in your own unique way.

About the Presenter: Yuko Maruyama is a pianist-composer-arranger from Tokyo, Japan. She holds a Master’s degree in Jazz Studies from USC. A Kawai Pianos recording and performing artist, Yuko has toured the U.S. with her acclaimed 2002 album, “In Tone Nation,” which was the premiere jazz recording of the all-hand-crafted Shigeru Kawai concert grand piano from Japan. She currently serves as the MTAC Improvisation State Chair and is also the president of the MTAC San Diego Branch.

Lead Sheet Examples from the Presentation

<p>Piano</p> <h3>All The Things You Are</h3> <p>Lead sheet for 'All The Things You Are' in B-flat major, 4/4 time. The score consists of six staves of music. Chord progressions are indicated above the notes. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat).</p> <p>Chord progressions: Fm7, Bbm7, Eb7, Abmaj7, Dbmaj7, Dm7, G7, Cmaj7, Cm7, Fm7, Bb7, Ebmaj7, Abmaj7, Am7(b5), D7, Gmaj7, Am7, D7, Gmaj7, F#m7(b5), B7, Emaj7, C7, Fm7, Bbm7, Eb7, Abmaj7, Dbmaj7, Dbm6, Cm7, Bb7, Bbm7, Eb7, Ab6, Gm7(b5), C7.</p>	<h3>Autumn Leaves</h3> <p>Mercer/Kosma</p> <p>Lead sheet for 'Autumn Leaves' in B-flat major, 4/4 time. The score consists of six staves of music. Chord progressions are indicated above the notes. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat).</p> <p>Chord progressions: Cm7, F7, Bbmaj7, Ebmaj7, Am7(b5), D7, Gm7, Cm7, F7, Bbmaj7, Ebmaj7, Am7(b5), D7, Gm7, Am7(b5), D7, Gm7, Cm7, F7, Bbmaj7, Ebmaj7, Am7(b5), D7, Gm7, C7, Fm7, Bb7, Ebmaj7, Am7(b5), D7, Gm7, Dm7(b5), G7.</p>
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Summertime

George & Ira Gershwin

Lead sheet for 'Summertime' in B-flat major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves of music. Chord progressions are indicated above the notes. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat).

Chord progressions: Am7, F#m7(b5), Bm7(b5), E7, Am7, Dm7, Fmaj7, Bm7(b5), E7, Am7, F#m7(b5), Bm7(b5), E7, Am7, F#m7(b5), Dm7, G7, Cmaj7, Am7, Bm7(b5), E7, Am7, F#m7(b5), Bm7(b5), E7.

Fly Me to the Moon

Bart Howard

Musical score for 'Fly Me to the Moon' in 4/4 time, key of F major. The score consists of six staves of music. Chords are indicated above the notes. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Chords: Am7, Dm7, G7, Cmaj7, Fmaj7, Bm7(6), E7, Am7 A7, Dm7, G7, Cmaj7, Am7, Dm7, G7, Cmaj7, Bm7(6) E7, Am7, Dm7, G7, Cmaj7, Fmaj7, Bm7(6), E7, Am7 A7, Dm7, G7, Em7(6), A7, Dm7, G7, Cmaj7, Bm7(6) E7.

Just Friends

Klemmer/Lewis

Medium Swing

Musical score for 'Just Friends' in 4/4 time, key of F major. The score consists of six staves of music. Chords are indicated above the notes. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Chords: G7, Cmaj7, Cm7, F7, Gmaj7, Bbm7, Eb7, Am7, D7, Bm7, Em7, A7, Am7, D7, Db7, Cmaj7, Cm7, F7, Gmaj7, Bbm7, Eb7, Am7, D7, B7, Em7, A7, Am7, D7, Gmaj7, Dm7, G7.

Beyond the Sea

Lawrence/Trenet

Musical score for 'Beyond the Sea' in 4/4 time, key of F major. The score consists of six staves of music. Chords are indicated above the notes. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Chords: F6, Dm7, Gm7, C7, F6, Dm7, Gm7, C7, Fmaj7 A7, Dm7, C7, Fmaj7, F7, Bbmaj7 D7/A, Gm7, C7, Dm7, C7, C7, Dm7, C7, Gm7, C7, F6, E7, A6, F#m7, Bm7, E7, Amaj7, F#m7, Bm7, E7, Amaj7, D7, G7, C6, Am7, Dm7, G7, Cmaj7, Am7, Dm7, G7, Gm7, C7, F6, Dm7, Gm7, C7, Fmaj7, Dm7, Gm7, C7, Fmaj7, A7, Dm7, C7, Fmaj7, F7, Bbmaj7 D7/A, Gm7, C7, Dm7, Gm7, C7, F6.

But Not For Me

George & Ira Gershwin

Musical score for 'But Not For Me' in 4/4 time, key of Bb major. The score consists of six staves of music. Chords are indicated above the notes. The key signature has two flats (Bb, Eb).

Chords: Ebmaj7, Cm7, Fm7, Bb7, Ebmaj7, Cm7, F7, Fm7, Bb7, Bbm7, Eb7, Abmaj7, Fm7, Bb7, Ebmaj7, Cm7, Fm7, B7, Bb7, Ebmaj7, Cm7, Fm7, Bb7, Ebmaj7, Cm7, F7, Fm7, Bb7, Bbm7, Eb7, Abmaj7, Fm7, Bb7, Ebmaj7, Cm7, Fm7, Bb7, Ebmaj7.