



Harps North West
Charity number 1093441

Bite size Composition

THEME - "Focusing Your Noodle"

Creating a melody based on a chosen rhythm, melody or technique,

When we are faced with so many musical options it can help to focus on one rhythmic, melodic or technique effect and build from there.

If there is pattern you like but don't often play this exercise is also a good way of getting it into your "go to" musical vocabulary when improvising and composing.

Exercise

- **Choose a key - Major, Minor (Natural/Harmonic)**
- **Choose a time - number of beats in a bar.**
- **Play keynote (Tonic, number 1 of the scale) in your left hand on the first beat of the bar**
- **With your RH play a melody/improvisation that uses:**

You can try this 2 ways - play a melody entirely using that pattern.

- play a melody incorporating that pattern into other shapes.

Here are three patterns to try:

1. Rhythmic - swing quavers. Long- short quavers, (think dum-di dum-di)

When trying out rhythms trying playing your LH note on every beat to help keep a strong pulse to play around on top of.

2. Melodic - intervals in 3rds.

Remember not everything you play needs to be in thirds but make it the focus of your exercise

3. Extended Technique - e.g harmonics. (Or any other effect that you like, glissando etc.)

Have fun!

Happy focused noodling.
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