

Song Accompaniment Deconstructed  
ACC/GTM Convention 2020  
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## OUTLINE

### SONG ACCOMPANIMENT - DECONSTRUCTED

#### ● RHYTHM:

- Moderate 4/4: "Daba Daba" problem
- Solutions: "Camel" rhythm (deemphasize mid-bar)
  - o Left hand: **Hashkiveinu**
  - o Right hand (more subtle): **Shalom Rav Klepper**
- Melodic rhythm counterpoint
  - o **Adonai, Adonai Sher**
- Syncopated 1/8 "Chorale" (RH Ostinato)
  - o **Dodi Li Sher**
- "Chorale": Florid subdivisions
  - o **L'cha Dodi Zeira**
- Moderate "Ethnic": Yemenite rhythm
  - o **Yismechu**
  - o **D'ror Yikra**
- Country Pick
  - **Hallelu Sufi**
- 3/4 Problem: Waltzy
- Solution: for slow tempi, create "gymnopedie" feel
  - o **Shabbat HaMalka Young (also bell tone A)**
- Moderate tempi, emphasize mid-bar
  - o **Yedid Nefesh**
- Swifter tempi, Gentle jazz waltz (soft articulation)  
**Shiru l'Adoni Silver**

#### ● HARMONY

- Modes (Dorian, Mixolydian, Phrygian)
  - o Phrygian: what comes to mind as "Jewish" (**Avinu Malkeinu**)
  - o Dorian (the Jewish Picardi): **Adonai Sefatai Young, Hinei ma tov (both versions)**
  - o Aeolian (natural minor)
- Substitutions to avoid repetition **Pik Shma**
- Inversion examples: **Bob Remstein Shiviti, Yihyu LeRatzon Nelson**
- \* Talk about inversions: Like color scheme, adds several dimensions.

- **MELODIC BASS** discussion: Analyze any great piece, most will have melodic interest in the bass
- What is a lyrical line: stepwise motion, shorter length notes
- Examples from all musical genres: **Mati Caspi, You'll Never Walk Alone**
- My examples: using chord substitutions and inversions to create interest in the bass line **Hinei ma tov, Hirsch Oseh Shalom**
- Use of ostinato bass: Groundedness, depth, makes upper harmonies more transparent (like overtones). A minimalist derivative (power of minimalism)
  - o **Janowski Avinu Malkeinu (Sheet music)**
- My example:
  - o **Eili, Eili**

- **MELODY**

- More don't's than do's
- 1/6 interval **Maseng Hashkiveinu**
- Clusters and suspensions **Young Shabbat HaMalka intro/outro**

- **TEMPO** – Most over-diagnosed. How to communicate tempo, how to guess tempo (pianists). Trick: How to correct tempo

- **VOICING and REGISTRATION** – more effective than dynamic adjustment (or closed lid); Demonstrate (**Shma Pik**)

## Q&A

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### PRE-RECORDED TRACKS FOR TEMPLE SERVICES

#### 3-Phase Process:

CANTOR: Prepare sheet music, discuss changes

Listen without singing or humming, send feedback. If none, play and sing, send feedback.

PIANIST: Play, Record, Sing, Listen, Fix, Send, Adjust.

CANTOR: Listen, Sing, Send, Practice

#### Tricks:

Disable the startle reflex: break chords **Remstein Shiviti**

Bell tones **Shalom Rav Klepper**

Added licks **Havdallah Friedman**

Tremolo strings on free coda

>>OPERAFY