

klezmer modes & harmonies

Frank London

Freygish (or) Ahava Raba

Important chords for klezmer harmonization

The musical score consists of three systems. Each system has a single treble clef staff for the melody and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 2/4. The melody is written in eighth and quarter notes. The piano accompaniment features chords in the right hand and single notes in the left hand. Chord symbols are placed below the melody staff. A small number '7' is written below the first measure of the piano accompaniment in the first system.

Chord symbols for the first system: D, Eb, F#°, Gm, A°, Bb+, Cm, D, D, Gm, Cm, D, D, Gm, Cm, D.

Chord symbols for the second system: D, D, D, Cm, D.

Chord symbols for the third system: D, Gm, Cm, D.

Freygish: I major, II Major, iii dim, iv minor, v dim, VI aug. vii minor.

* Important chords for klezmer harmonization* I major, iv minor, vii minor.

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2 Minor

11

(cadence 1) (cadence 2)

Dm E° F Gm Am B \flat C Dm Dm Gm Cm Dm Dm Gm

16

A Dm Gm A Dm B \flat C F Gm Dm/A Am Dm

22

(cadence 1)

Dm C F B \flat C F Dm Cm Dm Dm/A A Dm

30

(cadence 2) (cadence 3)

Dm Cm Dm Cm Dm Am Dm A Dm

Minor: i minor, ii dim, III major, iv minor, v minor, VI major, VII major

* Important chords for klezmer harmonization* i minor, III major, iv minor, v minor, VI major, VII major
(+ non-diatonic vii minor, V major)

(common 'modulation' to III major: VI major VII major III major)

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3

34 Mishebeyrakh

Chords: Dm E F G#° Am B° C+ Dm Dm Dm Dm

39

Chords: Dm Dm Dm Dm A Dm

44

Chords: E E E Dm

48

Chords: E E E A Dm

Mishebeyrakh: i minor, II major, III major, iv dim, v minor, vi dim, VII aug.

* Important chords for klezmer harmonization* i minor, II major, III major, v minor, (+ non-diatonic iv minor, V major)

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4

Major

52

Important chords for klezmer harmonization

D Em F#m G A Bm C#° D D D D A D A A D D

58

D D D F# Bm Em A D D

62

D D G G D G G A D D

Major: I major, ii minor, iii minor, IV major, V major, vi minor, vii dim.

* Important chords for klezmer harmonization* I major, ii minor, iii minor, IV major, V major, vi minor,