

## Klezmer Diatonic Harmonization – Frank London

### Diatonic Chord types:

Major mode: 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,

Minor mode: 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)

Freygish mode: 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.

Mishebeyrekh mode: 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)

Adonoy molokh mode: I major, ii minor, iii diminished, IV major, v minor, vi minor, VII major.

*\* Important chords for klezmer harmonization\** I major, I dominant 7th, ii minor, IV major, V minor, VII major.

(+ non-diatonic V major)

### Prerequisites:

- ability to spell all triads (major, minor, diminished, augmented) & 7th chords

- ability to identify type of triads by ear

### Basic Principals:

- Harmonies have Aesthetic / Emotional meaning. Make your choices meaningful.

- Learn to hear harmonic movement; gain familiarity with chord progressions.

- Chromatic flexibility - know All 12 keys!
  - Expand your hearing. Transcribe. Ear Training.
  - Learn to 'plunk out chords'
  - Sing (play) Melodies. Identify the key/mode. Hear modulations.
  - Klezmer can (often) be harmonized *harmonically* or *modally*.
  - MORE vs. LESS = Harmonic vs. Modal
  - Non-orchestrated, folk klezmer tends to use Triads only. Occasionally Dominant 7 or Diminished 7 chords.
  - a note can be the root, third, or fifth of a triad
  - (extended: a note can be the 7th, 9th, 13th, 6th of a chord)
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- INVITE ALL to bring in Melodies for harmonization ???

Advanced Principals: (

- tension and release
- pedal point
- counterpoint
- melodic bass lines