

Borrowed Major, Mixed Major, Major Polychord, and Cycle Majors Tonality

Ted Greene, 1977-07-16 and 1980-04-08

All with voice-leading or non-voice-leading or repeats and/or passing tones.

CYCLES:

- 1) (I – V) IV – V up in 4ths (in triads, open and close)
- 1a) Same with 4-note triads and voice-leading.
- 2) Cycle of 5ths in triads or extensions.
- 3) Add9 Chains in descending minor 3rds, major 3rds, ascending major 3rds.
- 4) (Spud [Lyle 'Spud' Murphy / EIS System]) Bass in Motion in various cycles and irregular cycles.

Examples:

1) $C \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash E \\ / G - A^b \end{smallmatrix} - D \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash D \\ / A - B \end{smallmatrix} - F \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash C \\ / C - C^\# \end{smallmatrix} - Dm^6 \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash B - A \\ / D \end{smallmatrix} - A \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash 9 \\ / 9 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash E \\ / \end{smallmatrix}$

E2 ↑ 2) $C \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash E \\ / G - A^b \end{smallmatrix} - D \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash D \\ / A - B^b \end{smallmatrix} - E \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash B \\ / B - C \end{smallmatrix}$ etc. or do: C - D - E - F# - A^b - B - A^bm⁶ - E^b/9/G

All 4's 3) C - D - F - G - A - (B - D^b)

4) C - D - E - F# - A^b - B^b - C

5) $E \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash G^\# \\ / B - C^\# \end{smallmatrix} - G \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash G \\ / D - E \end{smallmatrix} - D \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash 9 \\ / 9 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash E - D \\ / F^\# \end{smallmatrix} - B \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash 11 \\ / \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash E \\ / \end{smallmatrix}$

6) Embellished major chords in descending minor 3rds:

a) $D \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash (7) \\ / A \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash D \\ / A \end{smallmatrix} - A \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash C^\# \\ / A \end{smallmatrix}$ down in minor 3rds

b) $B^b \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash 7 \\ / A^b \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash D \\ / A^b \end{smallmatrix} - A \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash C^\# \\ / A \end{smallmatrix}$ down in minor 3rds

7) |-- of bVI --| |-- of IV --| |-- of VI --| Optional: Use ^Δ9 Polychords
I – IV, – I – IV, – I – IV – I such as: $G \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash D \\ / C \end{smallmatrix} \quad C \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash C \\ / F \end{smallmatrix}$

8) $C \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash High E \\ / C \end{smallmatrix} - F \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash F \\ / B^b \end{smallmatrix}$ down in minor 3rds

9) Use Polychords in regular “borrowed” type progressions.
Example in key of G:

$E^b/F - B^b/C - F/G - C/D - G$ or $E^b/A^b - B^b/E^b - F/B^b - C/F - G$

Do whole series of progressions of this type with various Root Progressions and various basses.

$B^b \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash R \\ / \end{smallmatrix} - F \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash 3 \\ / TR \end{smallmatrix} - A^b \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash R \\ / TR \end{smallmatrix} - E^b \begin{smallmatrix} \backslash 3 \\ / TR \end{smallmatrix}$
↑
Home key Tonic Root

Miscellaneous Ideas

KFWB [Los Angeles radio station] in C: C - (F/9) - B^b11^R - G¹¹

Schlitz [beer]: G - E^b/5 - C¹¹ - D¹¹

"Borrowed Majors"

Check out intro to "Close to You": "delays" on C^Δ9/5 - C^Δ7/3 - A^bΔ9/5 - A^bΔ7/3 - E^bΔ9/5 - E^bΔ7/3 etc.

Parallel I6 - ^bIII6 - IV6 - (^bVI^Δ7)

A^Δ9 - A^b11, G^bΔ9 - F11, E^bΔ9 - D11, C^Δ9 - B11

G } A/G B } G^bΔ9

Down in minor 3rds.

A^b11 } A^b Gm7 } C or F[#]m7 } B

Down in minor 3rds

C/9 F/9

Down in minor 3rds

E/B F[#]m/B G[#]m/B A/B B/B to B^b11

Original Theme in semi-jazz, waltzy-classical, gospel-fingerpicking bag (ha, ha), or in rubato.

(Spanish D^b/Bm - C[#]m - D... then D^b/diatonic major triads)

||: D^b/9 \ 5 6 - A^bm7 \ 3 9 - D^b/9 - A^bm7 :||

A^Δ9 - E^Δ9 - C^bΔ9 - G^bΔ9

Eventually, a good modulation up a 1/2 step is: D^b - D^b7/7 - B^b - B^b7/7 - A¹¹

