



Lesson 3 - Write Your Own #1- Static Melody with Active Counterpoint

Chord Melody Mastery

Now it's your turn. I want you to arrange a chord melody for the first eight bars of "Here's That Rainy Day" a standard making a static melody counterpoint your primary focus basically. Familiarize yourself with the melody and chords located in the PDF entry for this lesson. And please don't look to the solution right away, come up with your own thing. Here are a few guidelines, a few things I'd like to point out that you need to keep in mind about our demonstration on Lady Bird the previous lesson. We kept the rhythms very simple. Quarter notes or eighth notes only for counter melody. No triplets no crazy things. We kept the motion simple too. The counter melody moved by step or skip only not crazy jumps. Another guideline, at natural points of rest for the counter melody, usually the first beat of the bar where the actual melody starts moving again, we aim to land on the chord tone. The notes leading up to that target note didn't really matter too much, so stay focused on the note you want to end up on and work yourself backwards. Now also keep in mind we had counterpoints starting on the same note as the melody. So we call this a unison. That's the melody here we start here with the counter melody and we keep moving down or we move like this. So notice how we made use of that. Keep these guidelines and techniques in mind and you should have no problem coming up with a nice counter melody to all those repeated notes in "Here's That Rainy Day." That's really the feature of that song. So once you figured it out, check out our own arrangement in the next video.

It's more than likely that you'll have played something different than what we came up with but that you can compare the differences, take notes and get inspired and of course different does not mean wrong. It's just a different pathway to try to create the same effect. So have fun with this and I'll see you in the next video.