

Part-Writing: Melodic Minor



IN THE COMMON PRACTICE PERIOD, COMPOSERS USED HARMONIC MINOR BY DEFAULT. BUT WHEN AUGMENTED SECONDS OCCURRED, THEY TURNED TO A HERO FOR HELP: MELODIC MINOR!

SO ANYWAY, AFTER WE GOT HIM TRANSPOSED BACK TO TONIC, HE BEGAN TO MODULATE AGAIN, AND...

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! WE NEED ASSISTANCE WITH A **NEW PATIENT** IN EMERGENCY TREATMENT ROOM **3B... STAT!**

WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE **PROBLEM, SIR?**

WELL, I THOUGHT I'D TRANSPOSE TO **MINOR**, YOU KNOW, TO SURPRISE THE FAMILY... SO I DID, AND THEN I RAISED ALL MY **LEADING TONES**, BECAUSE I'M A COMMON PRACTICE PERIOD PROGRESSION, RIGHT?

OKAY, SURE. SO WHAT'S WRONG?

I'VE GOT **AUGMENTED SECONDS!**

GASP

PAGING... DR. MELODIC MINOR!

DOCTOR, WHAT CAN WE DO?

FOR THIS CASE OF **ASCENDING AUGMENTED SECONDS**, I PRESCRIBE A **RAISED SIXTH SCALE DEGREE!**

OOH... A **MAJOR IV CHORD!**

IV⁶

AND THAT MAKES A **MINOR V CHORD!**

v

AND FOR THESE **DESCENDING AUGMENTED SECONDS**, WE'RE GOING TO USE AN **UNRAISED SEVENTH!**

MY **AUGMENTED SECONDS... THEY'RE CURED!**

ALL IN A **DAY'S WORK**, MY GOOD MAN. NOW LET'S TURN TO THE UNPLEASANT MATTER OF THE **BILL.**

CURE YOUR AUGMENTED SECONDS WITH MELODIC MINOR TODAY!