

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 NOTES**, 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... IT MAKES A **MAJOR IV CHORD!**

IV⁶

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

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!