Species Counterpoint: Species V

FIFTH SPECIES COUNTERPOINT IS THE CULMINATION OF ALL THE OTHER SPECIES, AND IT'S THE CLOSEST FUX GETS TO PALESTRINA'S STYLE OF FLORID COUNTERPOINT THAT FUX THOUGHT WAS SO AMAZINGLY AWESOME.

THERE AREN'T A LOT OF NEW RULES FOR THIS SPECIES, AND THEY MAINLY DEAL WITH COMBINING THE OTHER SPECIES.

AND THEY'RE ALL ABOUT RHYTHM!

FIRST, AIM FOR A GOOD MIX OF DIFFERENT SPECIES. DON'T STAY TOO LONG WITH ANY PARTICULAR NOTE VALUE BEFORE SWITCHING TO SOMETHING ELSE, SO YOUR COUNTERPOINT REMAINS RHYTHMICALLY INTERESTING.

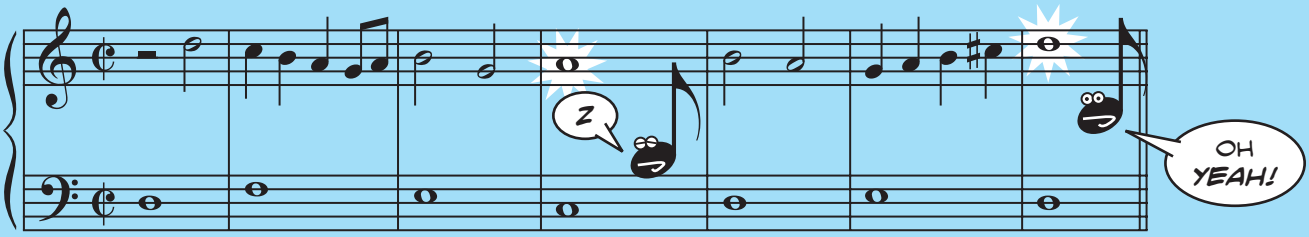
Species V Casserole

2 cups second species	½ cup first species
2 cups third species	3 tsp ties (fresh or frozen)
1-½ cups fourth species	dash eighth notes (optional)

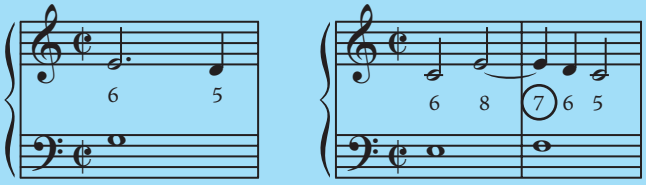
Combine all ingredients in a grand staff and mix well. Heat through to prevent unjustified dissonances from forming. Let cool and serve on period instruments.

WHEN YOU'RE USING A PARTICULAR NOTE VALUE, FOLLOW THE RULES OF THE CORRESPONDING SPECIES. SO WHEN YOU ARE USING HALF NOTES, MAKE SURE YOU'RE OBEYING THE RULES OF SPECIES II. IF YOU TIE TWO HALF NOTES TOGETHER, KEEP THE LAWS OF FOURTH SPECIES.

LEAVE THE WHOLE NOTES OUT, THOUGH, UNTIL YOU GET TO THE END OF YOUR EXERCISE. IF YOU GO ALL SPECIES I IN THE MIDDLE, THINGS GET REAL BORING REAL FAST.

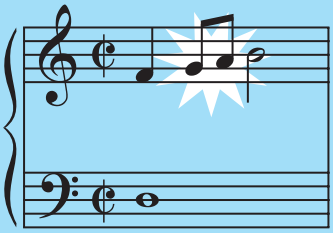


NEXT, SPECIES III AND IV CAN BE COMBINED BY USING DOTTED HALF NOTES, WHICH ALWAYS HAVE TO START ON A STRONG BEAT.



ANY DISSONANCES INVOLVED WITH THIS KIND OF FIGURE HAVE TO FOLLOW THE RULES OF FOURTH SPECIES COUNTERPOINT: THAT IS, THEY NEED TO BE SUSPENSIONS PREPARED AND EXECUTED BY THE DOTTED HALF NOTE AND RESOLVED IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARD.

LASTLY, YOU CAN INCLUDE EIGHTH NOTES TO ADD MORE RHYTHMIC INTEREST, AS LONG AS YOU FOLLOW A FEW RESTRICTIONS:



THEY HAVE TO OCCUR IN PAIRS ON WEAK BEATS,

BOTH NOTES MUST BE APPROACHED AND RESOLVED BY STEP,

ONLY ONE PAIR SHOULD BE USED IN ANY GIVEN MEASURE!

EIGHTH NOTES? I LOVE THOSE GUYS!

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