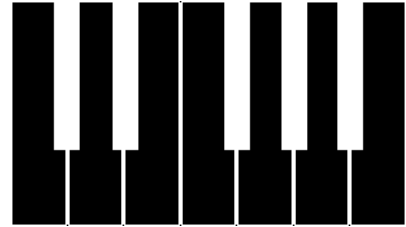


Upgrade Your Musicianship at VTS

Music Theory: My "applied" approach to Music Theory can be characterized as "what you need to know to do what you want to do." It is personalized to the students' needs, preferred musical style, and goals.



Formal courses can be expensive and music theory books may not clarify answers to your particular questions. Years of cuts to the arts in our educational system have deprived many from learning of the basics of music. From my early years trying to understand music theory, I realized it is most helpful to get questions answered when you need them. One on one lessons and small group sessions address that need.

Although there are many amazingly accomplished, outstanding musicians who are all ears, I encourage acquiring some music theory for the following reasons:

- **Your musicianship can expand exponentially with more knowledge.**
- **You have more to draw on for ideas when you're creating.**
- **Just letters for chords over lyrics is more work for everyone's memory.**
- **Memory definitely tends to be less reliable than writing things down.**
- **With charts, however basic, you can both visualize and analyze your work more clearly, and more objectively.**
- **Documenting your music in a more professional format protects it.**
- **Rehearsals and practice sessions are more productive with clear charts.**
- **Better "sidemusicians" prefer to play with charts.**

Notation: It's not that hard to make simple, functional charts, and songwriters usually already have the skills to make that step forward with little instruction. Even as a beginner, many musicians know more than they realize about musical form. You can build on that. And small group sessions for your band can be easily set up to advance your productivity together.

Software for notation can be very complicated and expensive, but there are ways to make your own basic charts to get your music in a useable, more permanent form than your memory, or even a recording. Data storage evolves and hard drives crash. Physical scores can last.

(Please note: I periodically offer reserve-space, affordable, small-group hour long weekly [music theory workshops](#). These can now be scheduled through Zoom or FaceTime, or in person for those vaccinated.

Use the Contact form on janice.jarrett.com or email info@janicejarrett.com to request a private lesson or a workshop for your group.
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