Creative Chordal Harmony For Guitar: Using Generic Modality Compression
Synopsis

(Berklee Guide). Make advanced guitar harmonies more intuitive and effective. This inventive approach to imagining and organizing notes will expand your concept of guitar harmony. You will be able to organize and use tensions more easily and with greater expression, whether you are soloing, playing in a rhythm section, or in a solo guitar context. Practical etudes over popular chord changes will help you to understand and apply these new theoretical concepts. The accompanying recording includes examples and play-along tracks, featuring innovative guitarists Mick Goodrick and Tim Miller, along with an all-star rhythm section featuring Terri Lyne Carrington on drums and John Lockwood on bass. You will learn to: develop and apply new chord voicings, using a rich palette of notes; isolate and organize the most essential notes of any chord-scale (Generic Modality Compression); view chord scales as five families of 3-note chords: triads, sus4, clusters, 7th no 3, and 7th no 5), to be used systematically and simultaneously; leverage this chord-scale organization to lead you to inventive harmonies; incorporate tensions more intuitively into your comping and lead lines; and use new arpeggio patterns in linear improvisation. Audio files are accessed online for download or streaming using the unique code inside each book.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (24 customer reviews)

Customer Reviews

This book is 95 pages of a vision that unifies harmony, melody and compositional texture in sounds that I couldn’t believe existed in my guitar. In 5 chapters of discussion, etudes, arpeggio explorations, "compressed modal" explorations and a rich section on implications and applications of the material, Mick Goodrick has presented an entirely new attitude that makes perfect sense yet
unlocks doorways into beautiful sounds completely missed in the harmonic perspective up to this point. In his previous books, Goodrick has consistently tackled and expanded the boundaries of guitar as an improvisational and compositional instrument. He can arguably be called the granddaddy of modern jazz guitar having passed his knowledge on to the who's who of contemporary creative jazz guitar. His books have been exhaustive, uncannily insightful yet challenging in their open ended possibilities. This book may be the most approachable edition to date, with usable examples on chord progressions that demonstrate the utility of the concept and the power of the approach. One note of note: The book is written in standard notation. There IS a CD with examples played by the co-author and notable guitarist in his own right Tim Miller, but fluency in reading and triad voicings will be most helpful. If you are beyond the hand holding foundational material stage, this is a truly rewarding work. If you are searching for ways to expand your creative base and craving totally new colours to use in any situation, this book could very well be the new currency standard. I’m going to be busy for a very long time.

I’ve followed Mick Goodrick’s books and recordings for years and truly his work is a narrative on deep and rich harmonic practice for guitarists and all musicians. This book thoroughly details a complete system that yields strikingly beautiful sounds. You need to read music and it will help to have an understanding of chord types and voice leading as well as a well developed knowledge of the fingerboard. The play along features John Lockwood on bass and Terri Lyne Carrington on drums. These are world class (I mean the very best) players. The examples are on the changes to Stella and you will know this tune backwards and forwards if you work with this book. What blows me away is Terri Lyne’s and John’s creativity in making this recording: the seemingly endless variety that they achieve within multiple renditions of the same tune at the same tempo is an education and an inspiration!

This book is the real deal. It’s a good recommendation to have a solid theoretical foundation before digging deep into this. I was fortunate to study with Mick in 2002. I have all three voice-leading almanacs and of course, The Advancing Guitarist. You probably want to be familiar with those works. The jist of this book is removing the root note from a mode and organizing the remaining 6 notes into two 3pt structures. Bottom line is when you apply this principle you really start to hear these beautiful harmonies and melodies. It’s a fantastic work. Props to Mick and Tim.

Mick Goodrick is a very knowledgeable guitarist. His “Advancing Guitarist” book is absolutely
excellent, so I expect this one will be also. There are some issues you need to be aware of, however. First, he makes no use of tablature or chord diagrams at all. Standard notation only. Except that there are also many examples of 'non-standard' notation. For example, throughout the book he uses stemless quarter notes to illustrate his concepts. No problem, I get that. But when I see one bar containing six of them with a time signature of 4/4, I'm a little confused. And later on, he provides examples using standard notes and timing indicators, but no time signature at all. I think I know what he means, but then again, I've been studying theory for over forty years. Some explanatory notes might be a good idea. A novice may not be able to figure out what he is doing. Second, if you have a very solid understanding of basic jazz harmony studies, including seventh chords and their related scales and modes, you will be able to handle this book. Otherwise, you won't since no help is given about these things. Third, what is discussed here, and exemplified on the recordings, is for advanced, non-standard, improvising. If you are looking for info on how to do traditional soloing over standard changes, this book is definitely not for you. The info given here is for the musician who is looking for those 'way-out' ways of voicing chords and creating solo material. If this is you, you've hit the jackpot. Fourth, while I haven't listened to the CD at high volume, the mix of the bass on those tracks provided as 'accompaniment' for you to experiment is barely audible on the small player I use for practice. So, with all these things in mind, I still give this four stars. After I've played with this book awhile, I may be inclined to add one more.

This is an amazing book for serious guitar players. If you are already working on Chord scales in major, melodic minor as well as harmonic minor, this book gives some amazing concepts and voicing concepts that bring a whole new aspect to guitar players that are looking to expand their tonal palette.

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