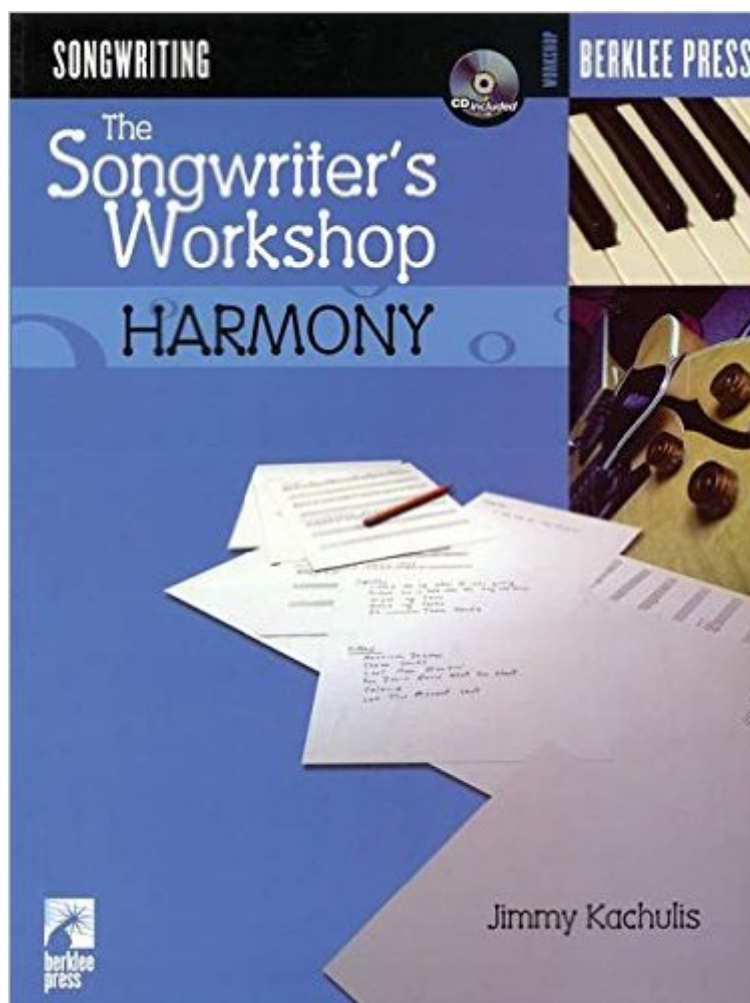


The book was found

The Songwriter's Workshop: Harmony (Book + CD)



Synopsis

(Berklee Press). Learn the fundamental techniques behind today's hit songs, with easy-to-follow exercises so you can immediately apply these tools to your own songs. Quit wrestling with writer's block, and learn to make the songwriting process easy, fun, and intuitive. Kachulis covers a variety of topics, including: colors of chords and keys * chord embellishments and progressions to enrich your palette of colors * dozens of ways to modify your harmonies and progressions * the most common chord progressions used in hit songs * and more. Practice your songs with an accompaniment using the online audio! Online audio is accessed using the unique code printed inside the cover, available for download or streaming.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (22 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This book, along with its companion by the same author, *Songwriter's Workshop: Melody*, comprise a solid, straightforward course in writing songs along the lines of what I'd (reluctantly) call "classic rock and pop" of the 60's through the 80's. The harmonic vocabulary covered in this volume is comparable to what most guitar-oriented songwriters used then and continue to: open position chords with descending bass lines, major triads with thirds and fifths in the bass, etc. It may be a sign of the times at Berklee or, more likely, just the author's orientation but you won't find jazz/show tune techniques here nor Steely Dan changes so if that's more your cup of joe, I'd recommend Jack Perricone's "Melody in Songwriting" which makes a great followup to this series. But otherwise, there's little prior knowledge assumed (other than an interest in and listening experience to a wide

range of songs) and much to be learned. Kachulis's approach is to build up song structures by having you focus on individual elements: groove, chord color, modal chord progressions over small sections building to contrast over larger forms. Always referring to an example song or to the accompanying recording the approach is logical, and it should work for those requiring different levels of handholding and validation. You can imitate the examples closely or just glean from the principles, going your own way. And let's face it: Many of the points about song structure are just as applicable whether your composing German Lieder, folk ballads, cabaret torch songs or a neo-prog synth-drenched epic.

I bought the book for a course of self study. There are a lot of exercises in the book, which is great, and obviously critical to one's learning progress, but there are no solutions either in the book or anywhere on line. I attempted to use Berklee's web site to ask the question about finding solutions, but it kept rejecting my question so I emailed "customer service". They told me they were too busy to answer and that I should use the web site to ask questions. Guess I won't be buying any more of their books or signing up for any of their courses.

I took a class with Jimmy at Berklee some time ago and enjoyed; he's an excellent teacher and this is an excellent workbook! If you write pop or folk rock, country or blues (or anything along those lines) and you find your chord progressions are getting stale, this is a great book to give you new ideas or remind you of ones you forgot. As a songwriter without a "sick amount" of theory ingrained in my brain, I find this a useful tool (so what are the chords I can use in this key? What chord can I spice this up with?). I especially love the very simple transposition chart (great for when you're in a hurry and need to transpose charts). This workbook is my favorite and I keep it handy. Works well as an idea book or an exercise book. If you can't afford to take a class, it can keep you writing if you go through the book and assign yourself "homework" with each topic. I imagine even if I had a "sick amount" of theory ingrained I would still consult this book when coming up with new progressions. Very pleased I own this one!

As other reviewers posted this is quite good for the aspiring songwriter. It is not that advanced but it gives good ideas. The section related to modulation is quite informative. Recommended.

Exactly what I was looking for. Goes into some helpful detail explaining modes, towards the latter chapters. Also has very helpful, easy to scan appendixes listing all chords in various keys and

modes.

Overall a great book on Harmony i have not even read the first paragraph yet and my musical ideas have allready expanded like ive never heard before.the book comes with a play along cd to listen to examples and drum tracks but ,i have not even opened the cd .to get the most out of the book youll want to read the chapter and at the end do the exercises ,ive been doing all of them.And when you do that you will open up your creative juices and youll be able to build harmonies from scratch ,this book gives you so much inspiration even though i have not read it fully im anxious to go to the next section .What this book does is it shows you how to combine progressions with melodies and mix African progressions with english progression to get that professional sound i love it and will be reading this book every night this week.for someone like me who knows theory and harmony youll be able to grasp on sooner and do all the examples but someone who is not into much theory can also gain knowledge of this book as well.

This book is helpful because it does provide some music theory basis to access both diatonic and non-diatonic chords in a way that works in a songwriting context.

I like this book for your explicit content, and the vision's author is super professional. Very organized and great. Thanks

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