

WORKSHEET 2: TWELVE-TONE WORKSHEET

If you are having trouble with this worksheet, reread Morgan, “The Twelve-tone system.”

Given the following melody (an excerpt from a really awful twelve-tone string quartet by a composer who shall remain nameless)

4 moderately fast ♩=96 almost mechanical
mf very light

1. Write the pitch classes within the octave from middle-C to C above middle C (3rd space in treble clef):

2. Call that row P_0 . Now give the following other rows:

P_7

I_0

RI_3

3. Why is it that the first two notes of P_0 and I_0 are the same?

4. There is a transposition of the retrograde (R) which has 3 of the first 4 notes the same as 3 of the first 4 notes of P_0 . What is that transposition (e.g., R_3 , R_E)? Notate that row:

5. Keep the first 6 notes of the row P_0 , complete the row in a different way than the clown who wrote the original melody did, then changing the rhythms, articulations, dynamics, range, whatever, to make a better melody than given at the top of the page (*A better melody?* you ask, *how could it possibly be WORSE?!*):