

# GARY WILLIS



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## PROGRESSIVE BASSICS

Get a close-up look at the playing of one of today's finest fusion bass players. in **Progressive Basics**, Willis shows you his unique right hand concept. Learn right hand dampening in the open and closed positions and how to use the correct muscles to boost stamina and develop fast, flowing technique. Through the strong and weak beat concept, Willis demonstrates how to **visualize the harmony** underneath your fingers. He also discusses fretless bass technique. The video is highlighted by performances including "**Self Defense**" which has been described in the **accompanying booklet**.

**Gary Willis** is a world class musician, composer, soloist and clinician. He co-founded **Tribal Tech**, with fusion guitarist Scott Henderson and can be heard on numerous recordings on the **Relativity** label. Willis has also recorded with such greats as Wayne Shorter, Alan Holdsworth, Joe Diorio and Robben Ford. He conducts clinics around the world and is on staff at the Musicians Institute in Los Angeles. Willis' **flawless technique**, flowing lines and great sensitivity combine to make him one of the finest bass players in the world today.



Photos: Lori Stoll



REH823

REH VIDEO



# GARY WILLIS

PROGRESSIVE BASSICS

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# REH VIDEO

VHS

Stereo  
Hi-Fi

# Dead Note Exercises

## Example 1

Example 1 consists of two staves of music in bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The first staff contains 8 measures of music, and the second staff contains 8 measures. The music features eighth notes and quarter notes with various accidentals (flats and naturals) and dead note symbols (asterisks).

## Example 2

Example 2 consists of two staves of music in bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The first staff contains 8 measures of music, and the second staff contains 8 measures. The music features eighth notes with slurs and quarter notes with various accidentals (flats and naturals) and dead note symbols (asterisks).

### Example 3

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time. The top staff contains a sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals and slurs. The bottom staff continues the sequence with similar note values and accidentals, ending with a whole note.

### Right Hand Scale with Fingerings

#### Example 4

Two staves of musical notation in bass clef, showing a right-hand scale with fingerings. The top staff has notes on the first line, and the bottom staff has notes on the first space. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1, 2, 3 and letters D, R.

1 2D 2 TD 3 1D R    1 2D 2 TD 3 1D R    1 2D 2 1D 3 3D

1 2D 2 1D 1 2D    1 2D 2 1D 1 2D    1 2D 2

**Example 5** Right-hand octave exercises (for 5-string bass)

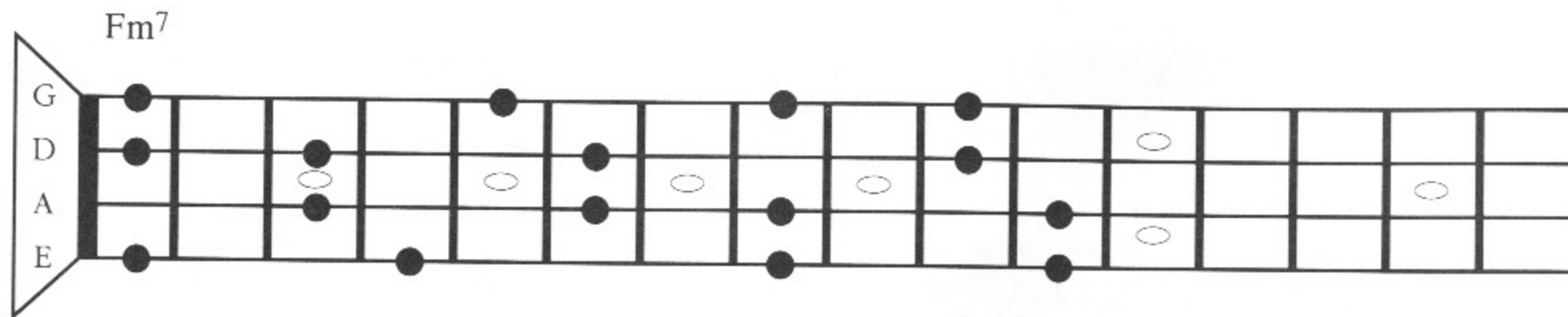
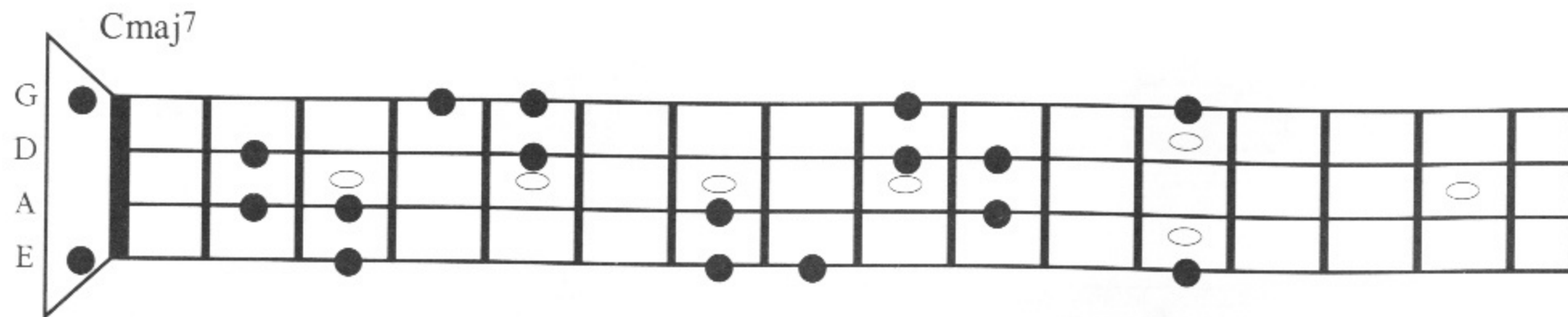


# Example 6

Example 6 is a musical score for bass clef instruments in 4/4 time, featuring a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The score consists of four staves, each containing a sequence of eighth notes and rests. The chords are indicated above the notes: Cm7 and F7.

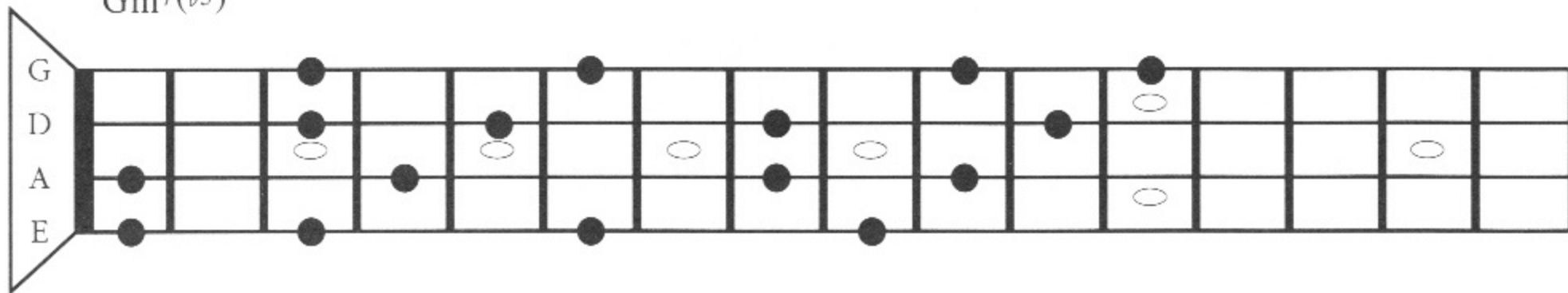
The first staff begins with Cm7 and F7, alternating every two measures. The second staff continues this pattern. The third staff also continues the pattern. The fourth staff begins with Cm7 and F7, alternating every two measures, and ends with a final Cm7 chord.

**Example 7** Fingerboard diagrams (7th Chords)

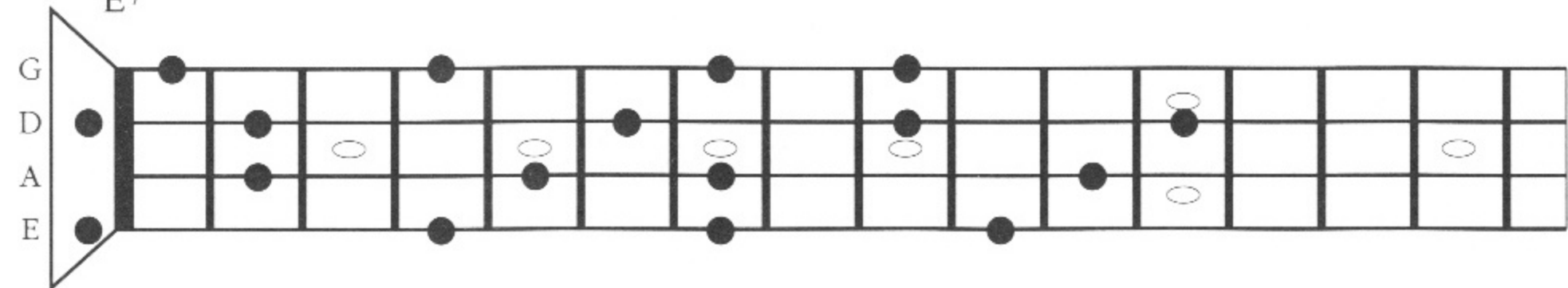


Example 7 cont'd

Gm7(b5)



E7



# Example 8

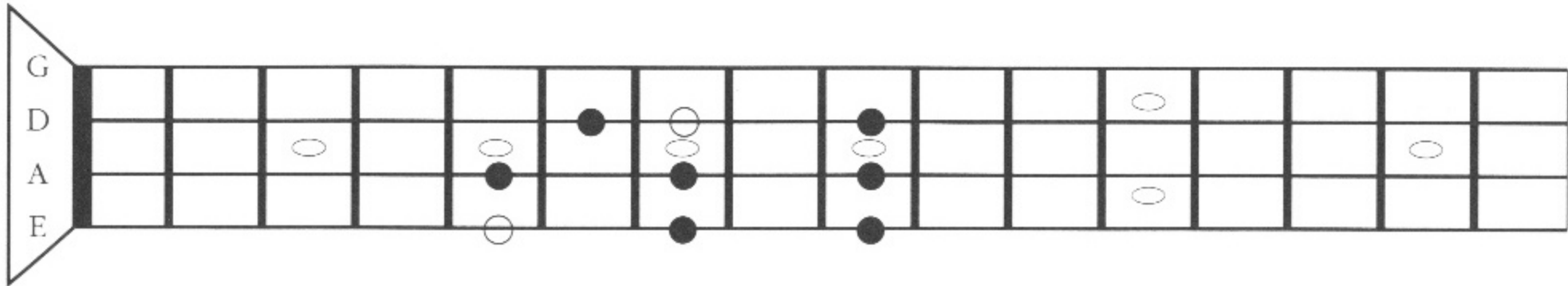
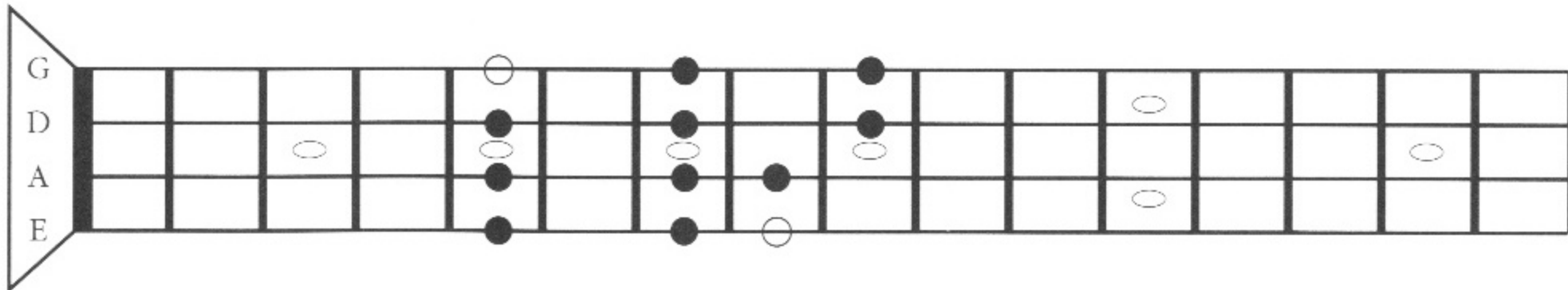
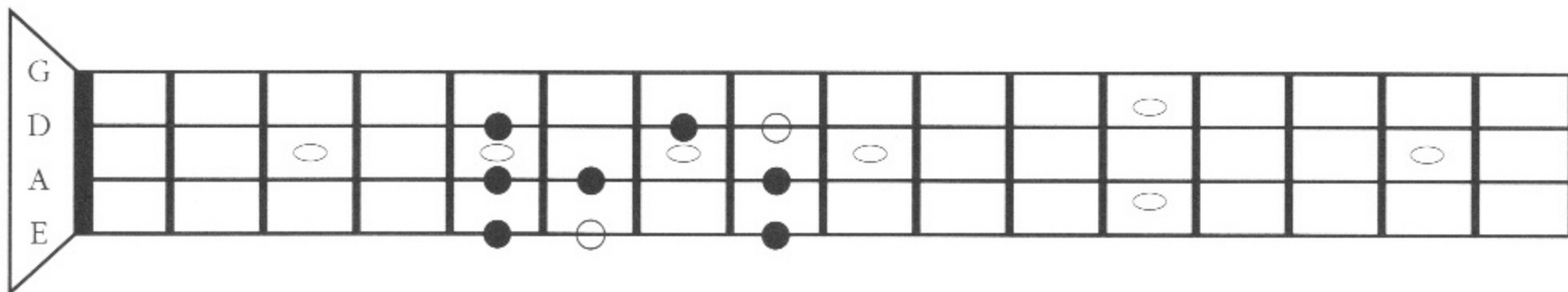
First staff of music (Bass clef, 4/4 time). Chord labels: Cm7, F7, Cm7, F7. The staff contains a sequence of notes: G2, A2, Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5.

Second staff of music (Bass clef, 4/4 time). Chord labels: Cm7, F7, Cm7, F7. The staff contains a sequence of notes: Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5.

Third staff of music (Bass clef, 4/4 time). Chord labels: Cm7, F7, Cm7, F7, Cm7. The staff contains a sequence of notes: Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5. The staff ends with a double bar line.



# Example 9



# Example 10

The image displays three staves of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a  $Dm^7$  chord and a melodic line of eighth notes: D2, E2, F2, G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4. The second staff begins with a  $Cmaj^7$  chord and a melodic line of eighth notes: C3, B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C3, B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C3. The third staff begins with a  $Dm^7$  chord and a melodic line of eighth notes: D2, E2, F2, G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4. The second staff of the third system begins with a  $G^7$  chord and a melodic line of eighth notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4. The third staff of the third system begins with a  $Cmaj^7$  chord and a melodic line of eighth notes: C3, B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C3, B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C3.

# Example 11

Dm

1

3

5

8

cont'd

# Example 11 cont'd

10

Musical staff 10: Bass clef, B-flat key signature. Measures 10-11 contain eighth notes with slurs and ties. Measure 12 contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measures 13-15 contain eighth notes with slurs and ties. Measure 16 contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measures 17-18 contain eighth notes with slurs and ties. Measure 19 contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 20 contains a quarter note with a slur.

12

Musical staff 12: Bass clef, B-flat key signature. Measures 21-22 contain eighth notes with slurs and ties. Measure 23 contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measures 24-25 contain eighth notes with slurs and ties. Measure 26 contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measures 27-28 contain eighth notes with slurs and ties. Measure 29 contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 30 contains a quarter note with a slur.

14

Musical staff 14: Bass clef, B-flat key signature. Measures 31-32 contain eighth notes with slurs and ties. Measure 33 contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measures 34-35 contain eighth notes with slurs and ties. Measure 36 contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 37 contains a quarter note with a slur.

16

Musical staff 16: Bass clef, B-flat key signature. Measures 38-39 contain eighth notes with slurs and ties. Measure 40 contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measures 41-42 contain eighth notes with slurs and ties. Measure 43 contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measures 44-45 contain eighth notes with slurs and ties. Measure 46 contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 47 contains a quarter note with a slur.

Example 11 cont'd

18



Musical staff 18: Bass clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a sequence of notes with various articulations. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above a slur. The staff ends with two asterisks (\*) above the notes.

20



Musical staff 20: Bass clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a sequence of notes with various articulations. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above a slur. The staff ends with a double bar line.

22



Musical staff 22: Bass clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a sequence of notes with various articulations. The staff ends with a double bar line.

24



Musical staff 24: Bass clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a sequence of notes with various articulations. The staff ends with a double bar line.

cont'd

Example 11 cont'd

26

Musical staff 1: Bass clef, 26 measures. Features eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and a double bar line.

28

Musical staff 2: Bass clef, 28 measures. Features eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and a double bar line.

30

Musical staff 3: Bass clef, 30 measures. Features eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and a double bar line.

32

Musical staff 4: Bass clef, 32 measures. Features eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and a double bar line.

**Example 11 cont'd**

34 

Musical staff for measures 34 and 35. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 34 starts with a triplet of eighth notes (F3, E3, D3) and continues with an eighth-note melody. Measure 35 features a descending eighth-note scale and ends with a quarter rest.

36 

Musical staff for measures 36 and 37. Measure 36 begins with a triplet of eighth notes (G3, F3, E3) and continues with an eighth-note melody. Measure 37 consists of eighth notes with grace notes (accents) on measures 36 and 37.

38 

Musical staff for measures 38 and 39. Measure 38 starts with an eighth-note melody and contains a double bar line. Measure 39 continues with an eighth-note melody.

40 

Musical staff for measures 40 and 41. Measure 40 consists of eighth notes with grace notes. Measure 41 continues with eighth notes and ends with a quarter rest.

cont'd

Example 11 cont'd

42

Musical notation for measures 42-44. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. Measure 42 begins with a whole rest. Measures 43 and 44 contain eighth-note patterns with various articulations, including accents and slurs.

45

Musical notation for measures 45-46. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. Measure 45 contains eighth-note patterns with accents. Measure 46 contains eighth-note patterns with slurs.

47

Musical notation for measures 47-48. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. Measure 47 contains eighth-note patterns with slurs. Measure 48 contains a whole note with a fermata and an 8va marking above it.



# Example 12

1

Cmaj<sup>7</sup> A<sup>b</sup>maj<sup>7</sup>

4

Cmaj<sup>7</sup>

7

A<sup>b</sup>maj<sup>7</sup> Cmaj<sup>7</sup>

10

A<sup>b</sup>maj<sup>7</sup>

cont'd

Example 12 cont'd

Musical staff 13, bass clef. Chord labels: Cmaj7, A♭maj7. The staff contains a sequence of notes: C4, E4, G4, B♭4, C5, B♭4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B♭3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3. A fermata is placed over the G4 note in the fourth measure.

13

Musical staff 16, bass clef. Chord label: Cmaj7. The staff contains a sequence of notes: C4, E4, G4, B♭4, C5, B♭4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B♭3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3. A fermata is placed over the G4 note in the fourth measure.

16

Musical staff 19, bass clef. Chord labels: A♭maj7, Cmaj7. The staff contains a sequence of notes: C4, E4, G4, B♭4, C5, B♭4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B♭3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3. A fermata is placed over the G4 note in the fourth measure.

19

# "Self Defense"

8va throughout

A<sup>b</sup>

A<sup>b</sup>7sus<sup>b</sup>9

G<sup>b</sup>m<sup>9</sup>

3

58

vib.

Detailed description: This is the first staff of music, starting at measure 58. It is written in bass clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat major/C minor) and a 4/4 time signature. The music begins with a whole rest, followed by a series of eighth notes and quarter notes. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it. The piece concludes with a wavy line indicating vibrato.

Fm<sup>11</sup>

3

3

3

E7sus

A<sup>b</sup>7#5#9

61

S

Detailed description: This is the second staff of music, starting at measure 61. It continues the bass line with eighth and quarter notes. It features three triplet markings above groups of eighth notes. A section of the staff is marked with a wavy line and the letter 'S', indicating a slide or vibrato effect. The staff ends with a quarter note and a wavy line.

A<sup>7</sup>sus

B<sup>7</sup>#5#9

3

64

Detailed description: This is the third staff of music, starting at measure 64. It continues the bass line with eighth and quarter notes. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it. The staff concludes with a quarter note and a wavy line.

Cm<sup>11</sup>

G/B

66

cont'd

Detailed description: This is the fourth staff of music, starting at measure 66. It continues the bass line with eighth and quarter notes. The staff concludes with a quarter note and a wavy line.

cont'd

# "Self Defense"

68  $B^{\flat}m11$   $A7^{\sharp 5^{\sharp}9}$



70  $A^{\flat}7sus$   $D^{\flat}m9$



72  $C7^{\sharp 5^{\sharp}9}$   $B7sus$



74  $A^{\flat}7sus^{\flat}9$



# "Self Defense"

76

G<sup>b</sup>m<sup>9</sup> Fm<sup>11</sup> E<sup>7</sup>sus

Musical notation for measures 76-78 in bass clef. Measure 76 starts with a G<sup>b</sup>m<sup>9</sup> chord and contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 77 contains a triplet of eighth notes and a quarter note. Measure 78 contains a triplet of eighth notes and a quarter note. The key signature has two flats.

79

A<sup>b</sup>7<sup>#5#9</sup> A<sup>7</sup>sus

Musical notation for measures 79-80 in bass clef. Measure 79 starts with an A<sup>b</sup>7<sup>#5#9</sup> chord and contains a quarter note. Measure 80 contains a triplet of eighth notes and a quarter note. The key signature has two flats.

81

B<sup>7#5#9</sup> Cm<sup>11</sup>

Musical notation for measures 81-82 in bass clef. Measure 81 starts with a B<sup>7#5#9</sup> chord and contains a quarter note. Measure 82 contains a triplet of eighth notes and a quarter note. The key signature has two flats.

83

G/B B<sup>b</sup>m<sup>11</sup>

Musical notation for measures 83-84 in bass clef. Measure 83 starts with a G/B chord and contains a quarter note. Measure 84 contains a triplet of eighth notes and a quarter note. The key signature has two flats.

cont'd

# "Self Defense"

85

A7#5#9

A<sup>b</sup>7sus

D<sup>b</sup>m9

3

3

3

3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 85, 86, and 87. Measure 85 starts with a bass clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature. It features a complex chord labeled A7#5#9. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 86. Measure 87 features a chord labeled A<sup>b</sup>7sus and another triplet of eighth notes. Measure 88 features a chord labeled D<sup>b</sup>m9 and a triplet of eighth notes.

88

C7#5#9

B7sus

7

3

3

3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 88 and 89. Measure 88 starts with a bass clef, a key signature of two flats, and a common time signature. It features a chord labeled C7#5#9. The melody consists of eighth notes, with a septuplet of eighth notes in measure 88. Measure 89 features a chord labeled B7sus and a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 90 features a triplet of eighth notes.

90

3

3

To Bridge

Detailed description: This system contains measure 90. It starts with a bass clef, a key signature of two flats, and a common time signature. It features a triplet of eighth notes. The system ends with a double bar line and the text "To Bridge".