

Teotihuacan

For Beginning Band - Grade 1.5

Composed By Craig Thomas Naylor

Teotihuacan is a massive Mesoamerican ruin northwest of Mexico City that flourished from 100 BC to approximately 750 AD. Known by the Aztecs as the "City of the Gods," Teotihuacan encompasses over 2600 major structures, including gigantic pyramids. At its peak around 600 AD it had a population around 75,000 - 125,000 people - making it one of the largest cities in the world at that time. Numerous cross-cultural influences with the Mayan and Zapotec cultures are found throughout the region.

Teaching Suggestions

If there is a lack of low instruments, use Trombone/Baritone part 2 (B. Cl/Baritone T. C. is part 2)

Use legato tonguing throughout. Playing a section using the standard "too" tonguing and then repeating the same section with a "doo" or "loo" type of tonguing can be a valuable exercise. Students should feel the different tongue placement for each and notice that the further back in the mouth the tonguing, the softer the attack.

D Phrygian Scale

Play the Bb Scale. Now play the same note set but start on D ("the third note of the Bb Scale"). Point out the minor quality with the flatted second step - something not encountered in the Natural Minor scale and a sound that may be unusual to your students.

The image shows two musical staves. The first staff is labeled "Bb Concert Scale" and shows a scale starting on Bb (B-flat) and ascending to Bb. The second staff is labeled "D Phrygian Scale" and shows a scale starting on D and ascending to D, with a flat sign (b) under the second note (E-flat). A "bII" label is placed below the second note of the D Phrygian scale.

The image shows a musical exercise labeled "42 Pyramid Chords". It consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) in 4/4 time. The first measure has a whole note chord. The second measure has a half note chord. The third measure has a quarter note chord. The fourth measure has an eighth note chord. The fifth measure has a sixteenth note chord. The sixth measure has a thirty-second note chord. The seventh measure has a sixteenth note chord. The eighth measure has an eighth note chord. The ninth measure has a quarter note chord. The tenth measure has a half note chord. The eleventh measure has a whole note chord. The twelfth measure has a whole note chord. The thirteenth measure has a whole note chord. The fourteenth measure has a whole note chord. The fifteenth measure has a whole note chord. The sixteenth measure has a whole note chord. The seventeenth measure has a whole note chord. The eighteenth measure has a whole note chord. The nineteenth measure has a whole note chord. The twentieth measure has a whole note chord. The chords are: Bb⁹ Maj 7, Ab⁺¹¹ Maj 7, Cm⁷, Dm, Eb^{Maj7}.

The image shows a musical exercise labeled "47". It consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) in 4/4 time. The first measure has a whole note chord. The second measure has a half note chord. The third measure has a quarter note chord. The fourth measure has an eighth note chord. The fifth measure has a sixteenth note chord. The sixth measure has a thirty-second note chord. The seventh measure has a sixteenth note chord. The eighth measure has an eighth note chord. The ninth measure has a quarter note chord. The tenth measure has a half note chord. The eleventh measure has a whole note chord. The twelfth measure has a whole note chord. The thirteenth measure has a whole note chord. The fourteenth measure has a whole note chord. The fifteenth measure has a whole note chord. The sixteenth measure has a whole note chord. The seventeenth measure has a whole note chord. The eighteenth measure has a whole note chord. The nineteenth measure has a whole note chord. The twentieth measure has a whole note chord. The chords are: Eb, Dm, C⁹, Eb^{Bb9}, Bb⁷ Ab, Gm.

Play these sections slowly so students can hear each chord.

Other Techniques That Might Be New

Key/Valve Clicks - Finger the valves/keys rapidly for a fluttering and rumbling effect.

In Stand - Trumpets play with bell pointing into stand for a distant, muffled sound.

Improvisation and Composition

1. Have the band play a drone of D and A ("the first and fifth notes of the D Phrygian Scale") while one to three students improvise on the scale. Any note of the scale works for the improviser at any time. Rotate soloists until all have had a chance. Percussionists can play the rhythm in measure 13 and 14 or create a new one.

2. Have students compose their own melody using the phrygian scale.

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Grade 1.5

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With Mystery ♩ = ca. 60

Flute 1
Oboe 2

B♭ Clarinet 1
2

Alto Saxophone 1
2

Trumpet 1
2

French Horn

Low Brass & W. W.

Bells

Snare
Bass Drum

Shaker
Tam Tam
(or Heavy Sus Cym)

ff Rapidly Click Keys

Rapidly Click Keys

ff Rapidly Click Keys

ff Rapidly Click Keys

ff Rapidly Click Keys

ff Rapidly Click Keys

ff Rapidly Click Keys

ff Rapidly Click Keys (trombones rest)

ff Rapidly Click Keys

ff Rapidly Click Keys

snare - roll on rim

snare - roll on rim

snare - roll on rim

snare - roll on rim

snare - roll on rim

snare - roll on rim

snare - roll on rim

snare - roll on rim

snare - roll on rim

Shaker or Maracas

Tam Tam p ff p ff

5

Fl. 1 & 2
Ob.

Bb Cl $\frac{1}{2}$
1° Only
p

A. Sax $\frac{1}{2}$
mp

Tpt. $\frac{1}{2}$

F. Hn.
p

Low Br. & W. W.

Snare
B. D.
p

Shaker
Tam Tam
p

Fl. 1 & 2
Ob.

Bb Cl $\frac{1}{2}$
p

A. Sax $\frac{1}{2}$
mp

Tpt. $\frac{1}{2}$

F. Hn.
p

Low Br. & W. W.
p

Snare
B. D.
p

Shaker
Tam Tam
p

13

Musical score for measures 13-20. The score includes parts for Fl. 1 & 2 Ob., Bb Cl. 1/2, A. Sax. 1/2, Tpt. 1/2, F. Hn., Low Br. & W. W., Snare B. D., and Shaker Tam Tam. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*. Performance instructions include *+2°*, *in stand*, and *on drum head*.

21

Musical score for measures 21-28. The score includes parts for Fl. 1 & 2 Ob., Bb Cl. 1/2, A. Sax. 1/2, Tpt. 1/2, F. Hn., Low Br. & W. W., Snare B. D., and Shaker Tam Tam. Dynamics include *p* and *mp*. Performance instructions include *bell normal (not in stand)*.