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Stacey B.

The Happening Harp

(How to become a more versatile player)

1 Listen

2 Building An Arrangement From Scratch

3 I've Got Rhythm!

4 Variety

5 Basics 4 U2 Learn

1) Listen!

The single most important thing one can do is to" listen." Listen to other harpists whose music you enjoy. Listen also to guitarists & pianists. Find your muses and influences. Copy them - imitation is the highest form of flattery. Transcribe some of their songs and solos.

2) How to Build an Arrangement / Lead Sheets

* Buy sheet music with complete arrangments. (The quick and easy method)!
* Lead sheet interpretation
* Learn your chord symbols
* Simple improvisation

3) I've Got Rhythm / Rhythm is my friend!

* Slap Bass
* Rhythm as a vamp
* Rhythm as a fill
* Syncopated Rhythms

4) Variety is the 'spice of life.'

Variety / Spice

Easy Ways to Change/Enhance a Melody

1 Dynamic Changes

2 Embellishment

(a) arpeggios
(b) p.d.l.t.
(c) glisses (use sparingly, less is more!)
(d) alter the octave for RH or LH
(e) passing tones going up scale
(f) ornaments, grace notes
(g) pedal slides
(h) muffles
(i) stops
(j) play the wires
(k) string bends – best upper strings
(l) soundboard
(m) cadenzas play chord every variation – end of a phrase
(n) melodic variation & improvisation know chords + inversions
(o) harmonics
(p) tuning key on string
(q) fingernails – 5 fingers on one string – use thumb
(r) tremolo
(s) slap bass/walking bass line
(t) electronic effects (delay, chorus) – need a pickup
(u) open chords to closed chords

3 Augmentation

(increase notes in duration usually by doubling the duration of the value of the notes (slower)

4 Melodic Extensions

(lengthening phrases by adding notes to the ends of them)

– one note above melody note
is " below "

23b – minor

5 Backwards / Upside Down

Amm chord to C#major

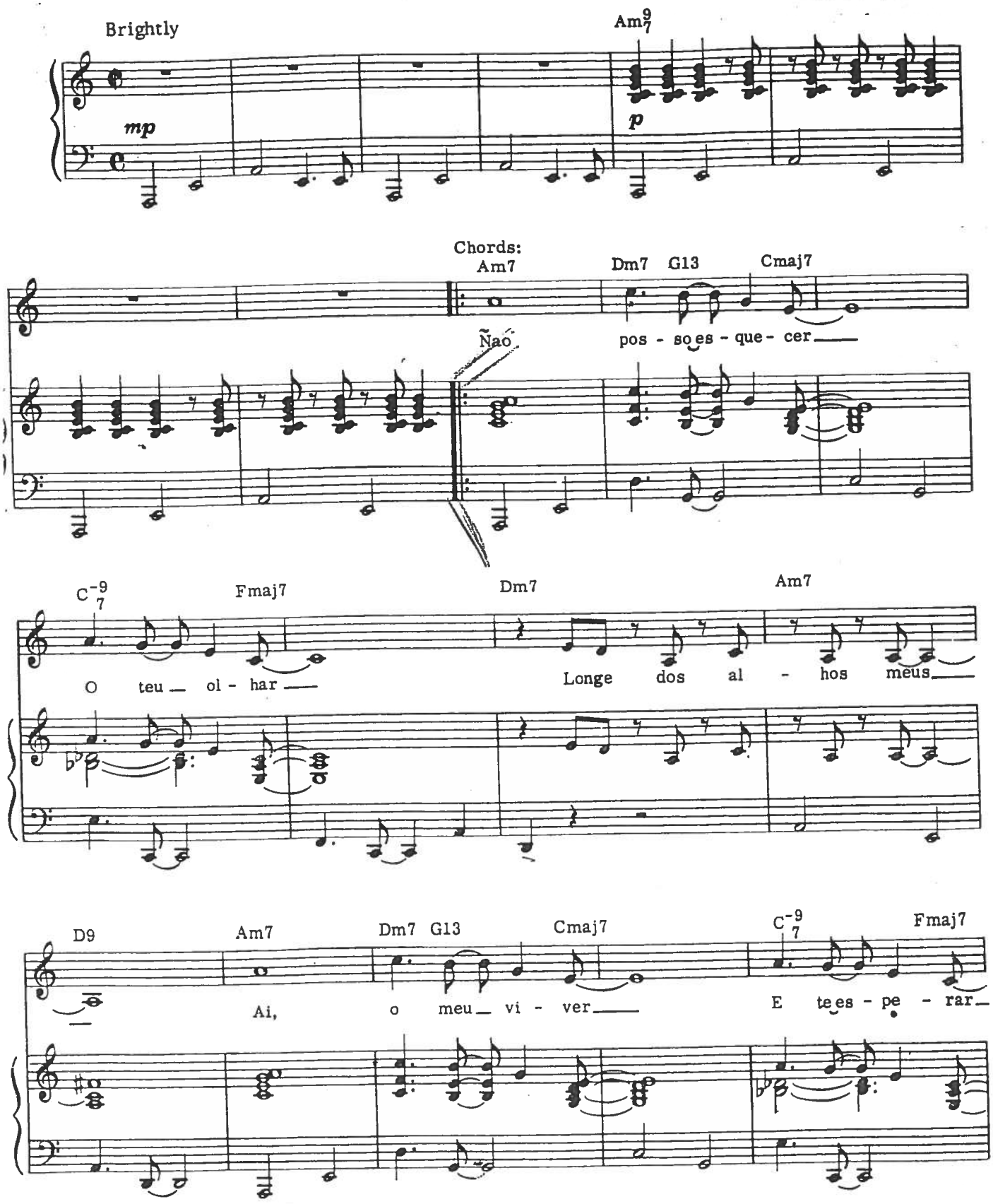
6 Transposition
(modulation, rewriting the melody in different key, major to minor or vice versa)

7 Phrasing Alter the written phrasing.

LAMENTO

Words by VINICIUS de MORAES

Music by ANTONIO CARLOS JOBIM
Arr. by Claus Ogerman



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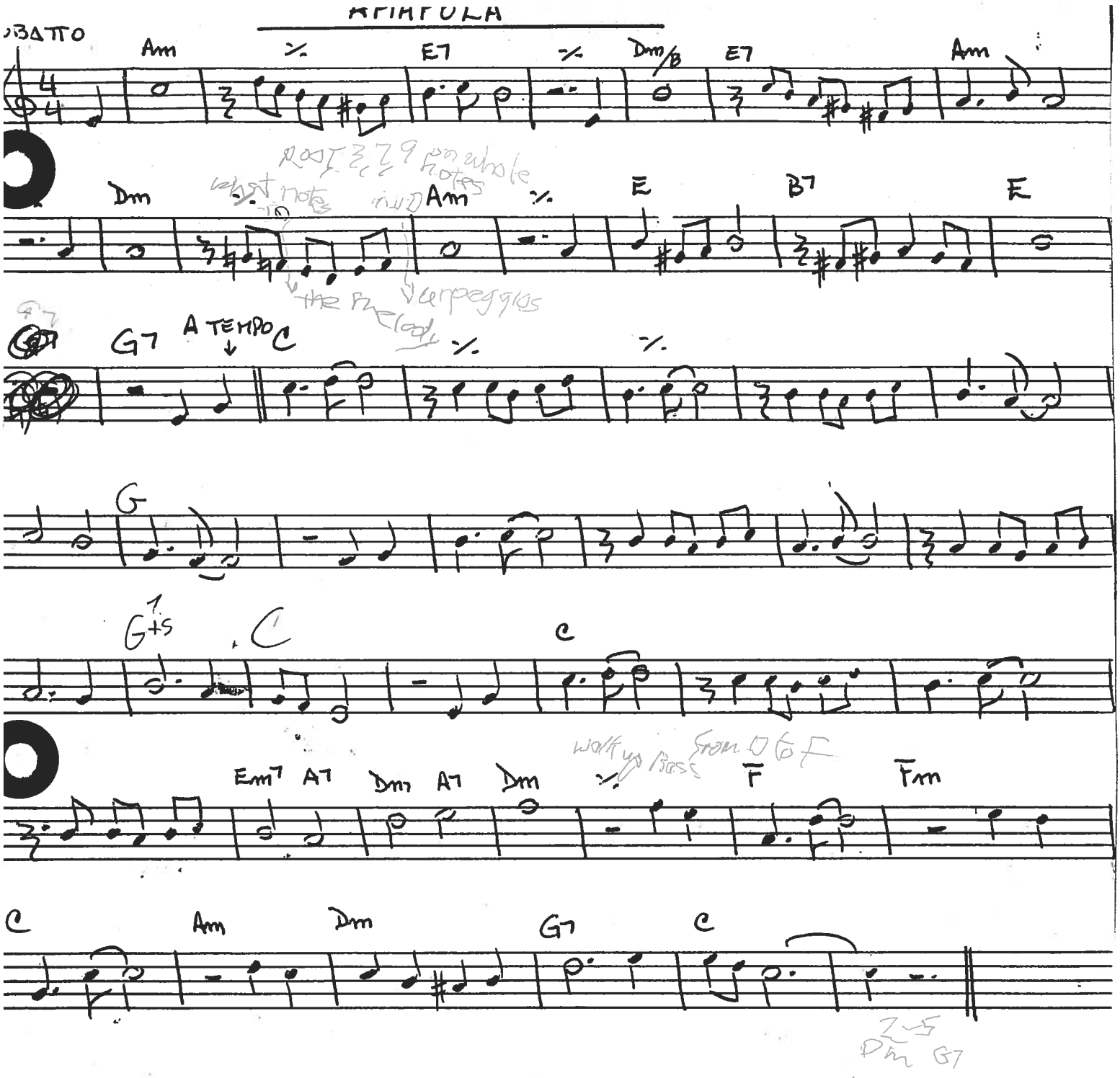
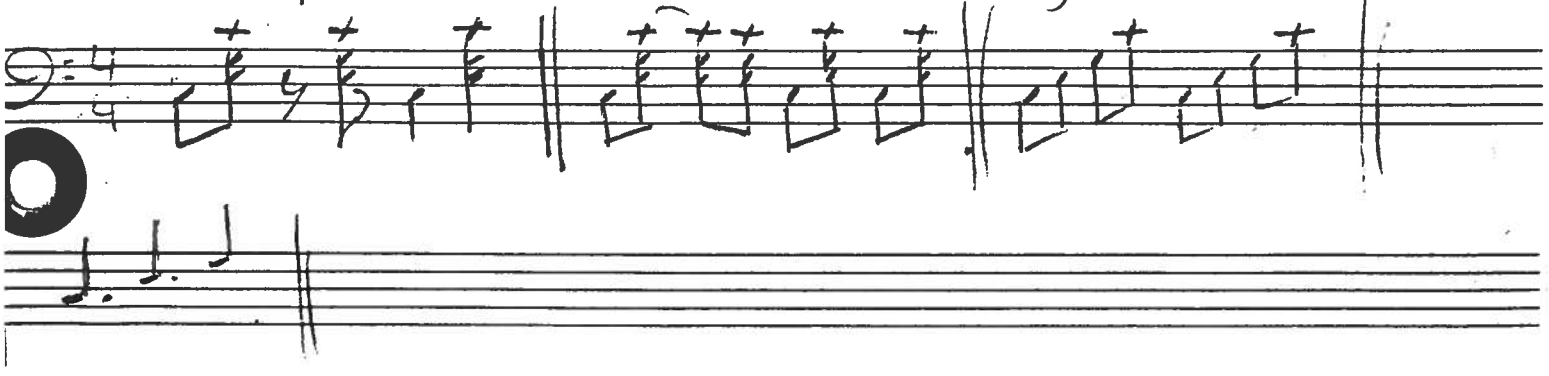


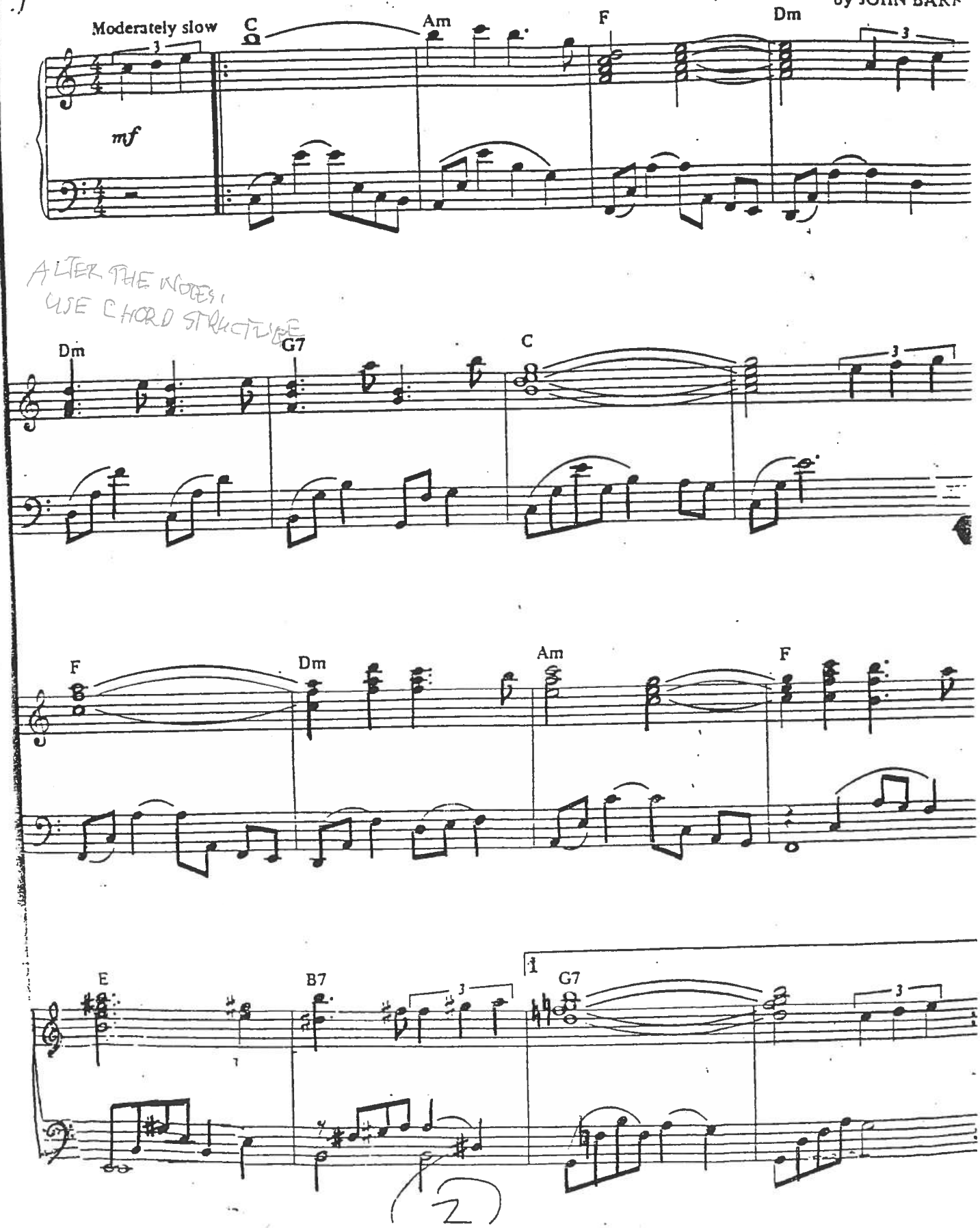
Sample Bass Bolero Rhythms



Somewhere In Time - Theme

(From The Motion Picture: "SOMEWHERE IN TIME")

by JOHN BARRY



Quick-Reference Chord and Scale Chart

SYLVIA WOODS HARP CENTER

To make this chart easier for harpists to use, double-flats or double sharps were re-spelled using a natural.

Major	Minor	Augmented (+ or aug)	Diminished (o or dim)	Suspended (sus or sus4)	6	Minor 6	7 (Dominant 7)	Major 7	Minor 7	9	Major 9
C	Cm	Caug C+	Cdim C°	Csus	C6	Cm6	C7	CM7	Cm7	C9	CM9
C♯	C♯m	C♯aug	C♯dim	C♯sus	C♯6	C♯m6	C♯7	C♯M7	C♯m7	C♯9	C♯M9
D♭	D♭m	D♭aug	D♭dim	D♭sus	D♭6	D♭m6	D♭7	D♭M7	D♭m7	D♭9	D♭M9
D	Dm	Daug	Ddim	Dsus	D6	Dm6	D7	DM7	Dm7	D9	DM9
E♭ (D♯)*	E♭m	E♭aug	E♭dim	E♭sus	E♭6	E♭m6	E♭7	E♭M7	E♭m7	E♭9	E♭M9
E	Em	Eaug	Edim	Esus	E6	Em6	E7	EM7	Em7	E9	EM9
F	Fm	Faug	Fdim	Fsus	F6	Fm6	F7	FM7	Fm7	F9	FM9
F♯	F♯m	F♯aug	F♯dim	F♯sus	F♯6	F♯m6	F♯7	F♯M7	F♯m7	F♯9	F♯M9
G♭	G♭m	G♭aug	G♭dim	G♭sus	G♭6	G♭m6	G♭7	G♭M7	G♭m7	G♭9	G♭M9
G	Gm	Gaug	Gdim	Gsus	G6	Gm6	G7	GM7	Gm7	G9	GM9
A♭ (G♯)*	A♭m	A♭aug	A♭dim	A♭sus	A♭6	A♭m6	A♭7	A♭M7	A♭m7	A♭9	A♭M9
A	Am	Aaug	Adim	Asus	A6	Am6	A7	AM7	Am7	A9	AM9
B♭ (A♯)*	B♭m	B♭aug	B♭dim	B♭sus	B♭6	B♭m6	B♭7	B♭M7	B♭m7	B♭9	B♭M9
B	Bm	Baug	Bdim	Bsus	B6	Bm6	B7	BM7	Bm7	B9	BM9

* For D♯, G♯, and A♯ chords, use the enharmonic equivalents of the E♭, A♭, and B♭ chords, respectively