



OMAHA SYMPHONY



Introduction to Roma Harmonies

HANDOUTS

Romani Scale Sheet

Scale Telephone Cards

Thank you to our partners



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Introduction to Roma Harmonies

Key Topics: Jazz, Western Harmony, Romani Harmony, Cultural Harmonies, Composition

Grade: 6-12

Materials:

- Laptop/Projector
- Link to [Concentrationary Music: Orchestrating Understanding](#)
- Scale + Notes Handout
- *This lesson pairs well with the introduction to Roma instruments in this series*

Length: 45 mins

Password: Concentrationary

Nebraska State Standards:

SS 7.4.2, FA 12.4.1.a, FA 12.4.1.e,
FA 8.4.2.a, FA 8.4.2.d, FA 8.4.3.d

Pre-Teaching Overview

Open [this video](#) starting at (7:03–10:18) and listen along to your Omaha Symphony play Roma harmonies alongside Roma folk instruments, listen to just this segment then ask the following questions:

- How is this different than western Classical music?
- Have you heard music like this before?
- How are the chord progressions different?
- Is the form of the song different?

Bonus (if you have time) - Listen to this [Paganini + Roma Jazz](#) and discuss!

Learning Objective

Students will be able to identify Roma Harmonies and how they compare to their traditional American Jazz and Western European counterparts.

Roma Harmonies

Open [this video](#) about the Hungarian Minor Scale:

- How does this scale sound compared to what you're used to?
- Have you heard this scale anywhere?
- Is this scale more chromatic (notes close together) or diatonic (notes far apart) or both?
- Could you write music using this scale?
- What are some challenges you hear when listening to this scale?

Proceed to the next page.



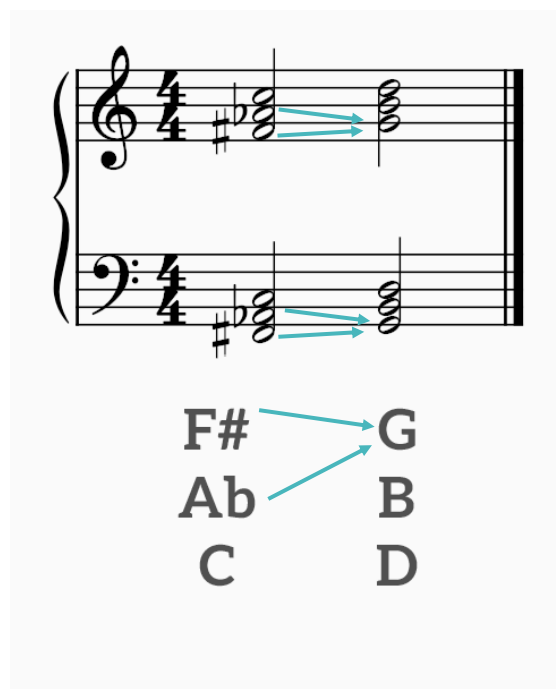
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Hungarian Minor Scale in C



This scale is similar to our version of minor with a small bluesy change. The addition of the raised 4th, or F# in this case, gives us 3 chromatic notes back to back with F# - G - Ab while still giving us a half step resolution with B - C.

The chords using this progression are what really stand out. Our first chord is a minor C - Eb - G. The most striking chord here, is the IV chord giving us F# - Ab - C. This allows for the F# and the Ab to both resolve in a half step motion to the G which makes G sound a lot less like a V chord and sometimes more like a I chord.





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Roma Harmony Telephone Game

Pass out a set of cards for each student. Put them in a line and have them pick a card each. One-by-one have them hold up a card corresponding to a note of the Hungarian Minor Scale. Play the notes in order for them to hear. After this, break them into groups with their instruments and have them play a similar game within their groups.

