
Introduction

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The mission statement for the Macro Analysis Creative Research Organization provides a concise explanation of the organization's fundamental initiative:

The primary goal of MACRO is to promote musical understanding through a practical synthesis of analysis, pedagogy, performance, composition, and informed listening. Macro analysis is used as the springboard to facilitate this synthesis.

Macro analysis is a listening-based analytical system which views music via harmonic motion to and from a target chord or tonic. Its traditional application involves tonal music based upon "circle-of-fifths" root motion, however, this application can be extended to include other kinds of music that involve some sort of regular, directed harmonic motion.

Volume 2 of *Musical Insights* adheres to the organization's agenda by presenting varied examples of the macro-analytical system applied in an assortment of different ways. An array of perspectives on harmonic activity—including circle progression embellishments, non-circle influences, and various levels of harmonic activity—are included in this set of articles. Historical perspectives, analytical system comparisons, and proposed expansions to the basic macro analysis system are also addressed in this volume.

The authors contributing articles to volume 2 include musicians of diverse specializations at different stages of their careers. Music theorists, composers, conductors, performers, and educators present their uniquely individualized perspectives on a variety of topics using the macro system. These authors include professors and instructors, graduate and undergraduate students, freelance musicians and self-employed studio teachers. Some of the articles are by previously published authors, but several are the works of individuals being published for the very first time. *Musical Insights* is a journal intended for all musicians.

The Macro Analysis Creative Research Organization would like to thank its founder, Bruce Benward, for developing the macro analysis system. His ongoing research, along with his enlightened perspective, continues to inspire and encourage new avenues of macro analysis study. MACRO is deeply indebted to both Bruce and Gene Benward for their continuing efforts on behalf of the organization.

MACRO would also like to extend special thanks to Jamie Henke for her exceptional administrative assistance throughout the production of this journal, and to Warren Gooch, Robert Hodson, and Paul Sayre for their exemplary editorial recommendations. Without these highly qualified advisors, volume 2 of *Musical Insights* would not have been possible. Most importantly, MACRO would like to thank the authors of this volume for their diligence and patience throughout the production stages.

Marilyn Saker, Editor