

Practicing Non-Diatonic Scales With Trichords and Tetrachords

Trichords (for reference)

013 0134 023 0235 024 0246

Half-whole octatonic scale: preliminary exercises in trichords and tetrachords

0 1 3 0 1 3 0 1 3 0 1 3 0 1 3 4 whole step 0 1 3 4 whole step

Now sing up and down the half-whole octatonic scale on "la."

Repeat the procedure for the whole-half octatonic scale. Warm up with the 023 trichord, then "0235, half step." Then sing the whole scale (below) on "la."

Whole tone scale: preliminary exercises in trichords and tetrachords

0 2 4 0 2 4 0 2 4 0 2 4 6 0 2 4 6

Now sing up and down the whole tone scale on "la."

Using the 012 trichord and the 0123 tetrachord (not shown above), practice preliminary exercises in singing the chromatic scale. Then sing up and down the chromatic scale on "la."

Non-Diatonic Melodies

1. Chromatic collections

Claude Debussy, *L'isle joyeuse* L. 106



2. Whole tone collections

Claude Debussy, *L'isle joyeuse* L. 106



In the next example, Debussy uses more than one whole tone collection. To set yourself up for success in your sight singing lesson, analyze the excerpt for 0246 tetrachords before you attempt to practice it. This makes singing the excerpt much easier.

Claude Debussy, *Proses lyriques* L. 84, “De grève”



3. Octatonic collections

Béla Bartók, *Mikrokosmos* Sz. 107, Book Four, “From the Island of Bali”

