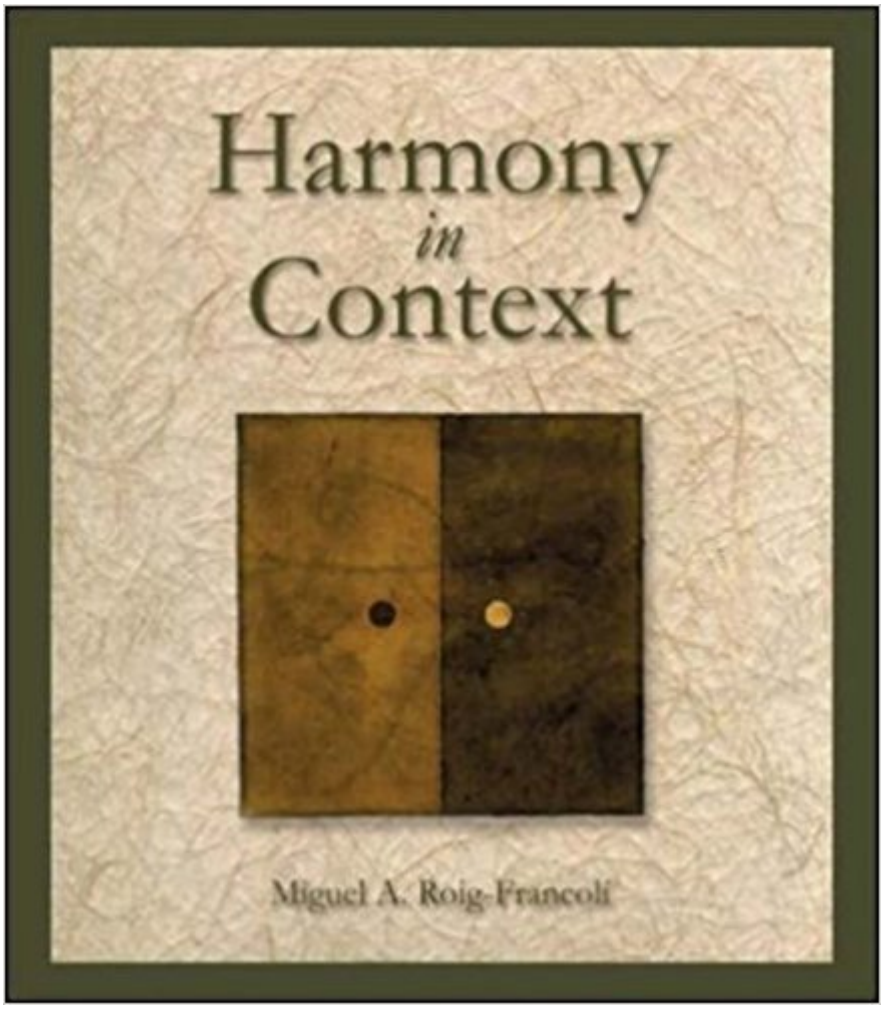
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Harmony In Context



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Synopsis

Designed for undergraduate music majors, Harmony in Context provides the richest possible musical context for the study of harmony, constantly encouraging students to translate what they are learning into better performances and better listening. The musical examples and anthology encompass a wide variety of different composers and repertoires. Students will particularly appreciate the clarity of the presentation and the attractiveness of the textÃ¢â ¬â„¢s layout, both of which enable a smooth progression through the material.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

and the fact that the book comes with a CD of the musical examples. This is a big help since I'm not the world's best keyboard player. The book I studied theory from when I got my degree was a soft-cover programmed text, where we worked examles right in the book. It was okay, but I'm liking this one better so far.

This is the textbook I wish I would have used as an undergrad - the explanations are thorough yet assessible. Most theory texts often try to teach a bit too much from the historical perspective without enough emphasis on the actual application of theory or fail to go into enough detail to be useful in the long term (Kotska.) Also, many theory texts often dump undergrads in the middle of part writing and analysis without really showing them where the theorical ideas came from - this is where Theory in Context is the strongest. This is also one of the only texts that gives a detailed yet easy to understand introduction to species counterpoint and relates it to part writing. Francoli provides a

comprehensive view of theory and its application in music ranging from the Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and even pop and jazz. He is also excellent at providing a great deal of information about the finer details of harmony while also addressing the bigger picture of analysis by using a modified form of Schenkerian analysis. I cannot say enough good about this text but I do have to give one warning: While the book is very descriptive and thorough, it can initially be a bit wordy for the typical freshman. But, as long as the instructor is at hand to clarify certain ideas, as is in any theory class using any book, the students often remark they vastly preferred his explanations to any of the other texts I have used. My only other complaint is that the book doesn't include nearly enough on 20th/21st century theory, but this this is still my favorite text to date.

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