



## 2018: SEMESTER 1 (Term 2)

# COZMO – Learning Group Notes #11

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**COZMO Learning Group:** Teaches or consolidates previously acquired basic reading and playing skills including transferring playing skills from another instrument e.g. piano, clarinet etc. to mandolin or guitar, developing skills in playing ensemble-style, opportunities to utilise improvising or other solo playing skills within an ensemble setting. Through the Semester we will also be working towards presenting a short set at COZMO's Annual Winter Concert on Sunday 1 July 2018 (more on this in later Sessions).

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## SESSION 11 (20 May)

### Guitars and Bass (Col)

Present: Col, Gianni, Lyn, Bob; Diana and Lindsay assisting.

Absent: Barbara.

#### 1. Serenade Pizzicata (by Louis Ganne)

We sight read a new tune, Serenade Pizzicata, both to have a bit of a break and for sight reading practice. We played through the first half of the piece several times, and by the final time it was starting to sound musical ☺.

*(Serenade Pizzicata by Louis Ganne, French composer/conductor, transcribed by Alfred Cottin, French guitarist, mandolinist and composer).*

#### 2. La Paloma (by S. Salaverri)

We played La Paloma for the final 15mins of the session and played all the sections. Everyone is continuing to improve rhythmically. We spent some time working with the "rhythm section" as well as working on bars 23 and 40 with the mandolins.

### LG(C) Guitars & Bass HOME PRACTICE

As given in the previous Notes:

1. Continue to work through all Sections of Golden Sceptre. How is the tempo going in the **allegro** sections?
  2. Continue to work on mastering La Paloma rhythms.
  3. Mark in all bar numbers in Serenade Pizzicata, play through and mark any problem areas.
  4. Continue to play through Carol of the Bells to keep it fresh – bring it next Sunday to work on.
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### Mandolins (Lea)

Present: Lea and Frank.

Absent: Michael overseas until start of Term 4.

#### 1. The Golden Sceptre

We spent our Session working on this piece, playing the Mandolin 2 part. We have a 1-bar count-in (1, 2, 3, 4). The tempo ultimately would be crotchet = 80 (given on the conductor's score). Our focus was on fingering, and 'anchoring' where possible to provide stability and smoothness in moving from one note to the next and back again. We concentrated on just playing the notes occurring on beat 1 of each bar, for bars 1-8:

- We worked on bars 5-8 first. We noted that this is just a movement between F# and E, so we practised 'cycling' these 4 bars several times, making sure that the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> fingers didn't lift too high above the fret board or curl back 'out of the way'.
  - We then worked on bars 1-4, which was a little more of a challenge fingering-wise, as we had to move from the G string to the D string and also use the 4<sup>th</sup> finger to play the C# (6<sup>th</sup> fret G string) or alternatively stretch and use the 3<sup>rd</sup> finger on this fret (either is fine – it's a matter of personal comfort and ease, and also a matter of considering what note is played next, i.e. your hand and fingers being in a good position to easily reach and play the following note).
  - While Frank worked on making the transitions between all beat 1 notes smooth, Lea played all notes in bars 1-8. Frank also kept strong and steady count, to ensure he played ON beat 1 only, no matter what distractions were being caused by all melody notes being played!
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### **LG(B) Mandolin HOME PRACTICE**

1. **The Golden Sceptre**: Practise the first 8 bars as we did in the Session.
  2. **Streets of Laredo**: Keep practising the Gtr 1 part and also your simpler Gtr 3 part (Frank) and Gtr 2 or 4 part (Michael – please let me know which part you're working on).
  3. **Barney Google**: Please work on the 3 bars that are the hardest, for counting: **bars 12, 14 and 16** (see previous Notes for the rhythms).
  4. **A Riddle**: How are the double stops going? (see previous Notes #8).
  5. **G scale**: Please keep practising a 2-octave G scale each day!
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### **OTHER STUFF**

#### **1. FAME FESTIVAL – 6-13 January 219 – REGISTRATION FORM NOW OUT!**

**The Registration Form for our next FAME Festival – FAME Festival Canberra 2019 – is now available!**

How can you get a copy?

- It was sent to all COZMO players as an attachment to the email to which Notes #10 was also attached, last week,
- It's also available on COZMO's website's home page,
- It was circulated to all FAME members by *Plucked Strings* editor Marie Schulz on 22 May, and
- It will soon be posted on the soon-to-go-live Festival website to attract attendees from the general public.

**COZMO Players are most welcome to attend:** The Registration Form lists Festival Fees for these different categories of attendees – and also caters for Beginner, Competent and Advanced level players of a range of instruments – mandolin, guitar, mandola, mandocello, bass.

ALL COZMO players should think seriously about attending (☺☺ !) as this Festival is appropriate for all levels, the experience is amazing and invaluable, it only happens once every 18 months in Australia/ New Zealand, and it won't be held in Canberra again for another 13 years!!!

Your COZMO reps on the Festival Committee – Col, Trevor and Lea – are really hoping that you'll all get behind this festival by registering as residents and we're also asking you to help spruik the event by telling all the mandolin/mandola/mandocello players, guitarists and bassists you know that it's on and telling them how to get a Registration Form.

Thank you all – Col and Lea ☺