

2025: SEMESTER 1 (Term 1)

Notes #2

COZMO Ensemble & COZYMO Learning Group

COZMO REHEARSAL & COZYMO SESSION #2 (9 February)

In today's COZYMO Session:

Present: Col, Lea, David, Jackie and Alan, with Trevor arriving at 3.55pm for the final 15 minutes today.

Absent: Lyn (away today and 16 February).

1. Barcarola 'Duo' (C Munier)

M1: Col, Lea, David Gtr: Jackie, Alan

Alan had been very busy with family matters interstate in the past week or two, and David had also been very busy with work right through to coming to the Session, so we just relaxed into this piece – senza stressa (no stress)! We mentioned that we want to take the class at a pace that doesn't cause stress, where we know that having a fun and relaxing time during our Sessions while learning is (almost... ©!) as important as the process of learning and gaining of confidence and skills.

So we took it slowly, allowing enough time to sight-read without too much panic.

- Alan gave us a 1-bar count-in ('1 2 3 4 5 6'), setting a slow tempo for our first play-through, which went well! Alan commented that bars 15, 16 and 17 involve some tricky fingering that will need practice.
- Jackie and David counted us in for the 2nd and 3rd plays-through respectively. Having the students give the count-in allows an appreciation of thinking about setting the tempo at a playable rate (not easy!) and to then internalise and keep to the tempo set and to keep that tempo going steadily.
- Lea counted throughout the piece and called out bar numbers here and there which helped everyone stay on the right bars or get back on (hence the value of having your bars numbered in advance). Lea also called out the dynamics and the ralls, inviting everyone to also play them with her.
- For the third play-through, Lea asked everyone to try not to look down at their fretboards at all, but to see if they could visualise the strings and frets and to get their fingers to land correctly except for a possible peek at bars 15, 16 and 17 for Gtrs! Gtrs managed not to look at these bars at all, despite these arpeggios being difficult well done. Mdlns also managed this 'challenge' very well. A very useful skill to have when sight-reading a piece. By now the piece was sounding really good!
- Trevor arrived in time for our final play-through, playing the MdIn part on Mandola (an octave lower). We finished at 4.10pm. David had to head off straightaway but Alan and Jackie stayed on until 4.45pm to hear about COZMO's Project and the list of pieces.

HOME PRACTICE – COZYMO

Please practise *Barcarola Duo* (C Munier):

- Gtrs: Continue to work on playing the arpeggios with as smooth a transition from one to the next.
- Mdlns: If you have time, finish identifying the chords in the Gtr part and how/where you'd play those chords on the mandolin, and practise strumming those chords as indicated in last week's Notes.

<u>Barcarole</u> (Schulz): We'll re-familiarise ourselves with this in next Session so bring it along – don't worry about trying to work on it beforehand.

For those who could be interested in participating, however slightly, in COZMO's 'project', do read the start of the COZMO section below.

In today's COZMO Session:

Present: Col, Lea, Trevor.

Absent: No-one.

1. Project: 'Go-To' Set-List #1

See last week's Notes for background. During the week Col and Trevor each came up with a list of pieces that could be suitable for inclusion in the first Set-List, and Lea brought along to Rehearsal a list of pieces



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that she thought could be considered. There are possibly enough suitable pieces here to form two solid set-lists; we'd need to check instrumentation etc.

We'd be happy to have COZYMO players participate in this, and to practise and play with COZMO whichever of these pieces they'd like to, and also to perform any of these with COZMO if interested – but there is no pressure whatsoever to do so, of course.

We'll be giving this list further consideration before finalising, taking into account whether any difficult parts and high notes can be consistently achieved; whether they're playable by a small group etc.

The proposed pieces (24!) are listed below in alphabetical order by composer and can be found in the Members section of the COZMO website:

Adriaensen, E: <u>Zwei Festliche Tanzstücke</u> Baldassari, B: <u>Waltz for Bill Munroe</u>

Barbella, E: <u>Sonata a Due Mandolini e Basso</u>

Cecere, C: Sinfonia in Sol Maggiore
Cottin: Serenade Pizzicata
Hadjidakis, M: Mother and Sister
Hadjidakis, M: Waltz of Lost Dreams

Händel, GF: Allemande (from Suite in Gminor HWV 452)

Händel, GF: <u>Suite Nr 4 in D-Moll</u> Händel, GF: <u>Alte Zupfmusik</u>

Italian pieces: D'Enza, L: *Funiculi Funicula*, Di Capua, E: *O Sole Mio*, Graziani-Walter, C: *Santa Lucia*,

De Curts, E: <u>Torna ea Surriento</u>

Metallo, G: <u>Curro Cuchares</u>
Munier, C: <u>Valser Cantabile</u>
Munier, C: <u>Quartetto Originale</u>

Myers, S <u>Cavatina</u>

Pleyel, I: Allegro, Romance and Rondo (Opus 8)

Salaverri S: La Paloma

Tarrega, F: Recuerdos a la Alhambra
Telemann: Concerto Polonoise
Telemann: Suite in E Minor

Trad (Russian): Song of the Volga Boatmen

2. Sonata a Due Mandolini e Basso (Emannuele Barella (1718-177)

At 5pm, we played through this piece, with all repeats.

M1: Trevor M2: Lea Bass: Col (on Mcello)

Although we haven't played this piece for many months, and Trevor sight-read the M1 part (he'd played M2 in the past), this went very well indeed. Full dynamics and ralls will enhance this piece.

HOME PRACTICE – COZMO

We'll start next Rehearsal (16 Feb) with Telemann's <u>Suite in E Minor</u>, Mvt 2 (Gavotte) and Mvt 5 (Gigue). Please continue working on <u>Suite Marinaresca</u> (all 4 mvts) and <u>Tra Veglia e Sonno</u>.

OTHER STUFF

1. 2025 CALENDAR & next few weeks

Apologies – Lea was away for most of this week, so the Calendar will be out soon.

Sun 23 Feb and Sun 2 March: No COZYMO or COZMO (Col & Lea will be away on those weekends)

Sun 9 March: Canberra Day weekend. However, if COZYMO would like to meet, this will be at Col's and Lea's place at 24 Amaroo St – do let us know ASAP, thank you.

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