

Music Theory Introduction: The things you need to know about music itself.

Music is a thing you can learn. Music theory is the language of music.

We'll be covering the following

1. What is a note?
2. What does pitch and range mean?
3. What does key mean?
4. What is the first note?
5. What is rhythm and groove?
6. Understanding the needs of different musicians (rhythm, guitar, melodic).

Notes:

- This is where we start do-re-me, and Doe a Deer.
- Demonstrate on little keyboard and flute
- Theory: a key is made up of 7 specific notes, chords are made up of the notes in a key
(There are lots of incidentals in dance music, but don't worry about that for now. Your musicians will figure that out)
- Note: all these details are in play even if acapella.

Pitch and range

This basically means: Is it too high or too low?

- You need to know this so you can communicate, mostly with your guitar player, to get the song in a range that is comfortable for you and for the circle.
- The difference between women's and men's voices.

Key is the thing your musician needs to know to get you in the right pitch and range.

There are two options here:

1. You'll either step into the circle knowing what key you want it to be in

2. Or you'll work with your musicians, mostly your guitar player, to find the key

-- *Pro tip... it's best to know beforehand if at all possible.*

First note is the result of knowing pitch, range and key.

--- How to find that note:

1. Just hear it and know or
2. Ask your musician

Rhythm and groove

1. Understand 4 and 3 (and 2, 8 and 6)
2. How to express the groove to your musicians
3. What is a rest? (*a rest is actually a thing, not just a mysterious silence*)
4. Where is the One?
5. What is an upbeat? (Madre Tierra example)

Different musicians

1. Guitar players need to know the key so they can find the right chords (and or capo position)
- it's easy for a guitar player to make a song higher by putting on a capo. Making it lower is trickier and will need a bit more time.
2. Drummers and percussion need to know the time signature, speed & groove. *They can almost always figure it out on their own.*
3. Melodic instruments need to know the key so they can find the right notes easily.

Tools to help you find the key on your own

A little piano

Circle of fifths app on your phone

Dance writeups

Close with a recap

1. Notes
2. Pitch and Range
3. Key
4. First note of song
5. Rhythm and groove
6. Guitars, drums, melodic musicians

Madre Tierra, Madre Vida

♩ = 90

Words, music and movements by Grace Marie

Capo fret 2

G 1. 3. 2. 4. C 5. Am

Ma-dre Tier-ra, Ma-dre Vi - da Llé - va-me

C D 6. Am 7. C D

en tu Co-ra - zon, la Me-di - ci - na de tu A- mor

The love for the Earth by the Peruvian culture is deep. Ceremonies honoring the Earth are frequent and common. Andean spirituality and cosmology uses and honors Nature as its teachers. Using these simple words and movements will assist you to remember our connection to the Earth, and to all beings.

The inspiration for this dance comes from the song *Madre Tierra*, written by my friend and heart brother, a Peruvian Shaman, Alonso del Rio, who has been involved with the Dances of Universal Peace since my first visit to share them in March 1999, in Lima, Peru.

1. Madre Tierra
2. Madre Vida
3. Madre Tierra
4. Madre Vida
5. Llévame en tu Corazón
6. la Medicina
7. de tu Amór.

Circle preparation:

Face line of direction to the Left. Place your L hand on the R shoulder of the person in front of you. Your R foot will step into the center on the beat before singing, then rocking back on the L foot singing "Madre....." keeping the rocking rhythm throughout "Madre Tierra, Madre Vida" while moving the circle forward.

1. Your R palm faces center and toward the earth during Madre Tierra. Step in with R foot. Rock back on the L foot singing "Madre". R foot on "Tierra".
2. The R palm now will face up singing "Madre Vida" while raising the R arm slowly to the sky. L foot on "Madre", R foot on "Vida".
3. Repeat 1.
4. Repeat 2.
5. Individual R slow turn 8 steps while bringing both hands to the heart, ending to face the center.
6. 4 steps into the center while both arms are harvesting the blessings of the Earth.
7. 4 steps back bringing hands with the Earth's blessings to the heart.

Spanish to English Translation:

Mother Earth, Mother of Life
Mother Earth, Mother of Life
Hold (or carry) me in your heart
It is the medicine of your love.



**Originator-approved write-up collected by
Dances of Universal Peace International**

November 2018

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