

A Concept of Church Music Instruction Series in the Context of Uganda

Purpose

- Publication of instruction materials for the learning/teaching and practice of music in the context of Uganda. Texts and demonstrations that are useful to ordinary musicians in a practical context, but also informative and educative in a scholarly context.
- We are aiming at *basic/fundamental* and *practical* resources for immediate use. Since most of these skills are learnt in a practical context under guidance, the aim is to offer basic guidelines and demonstrate these with short video extracts. Depending on the skills to be demonstrated, recordings can be made by individuals alone, or we organise among ourselves where more people are needed, or we find other technical people (for example where we need instrumental accompaniment, we could involve a few people who are interested in the project (also in Uganda or anywhere) and work with them. Individuals/groups/Choirs in Uganda/elsewhere can also be commissioned to work on particular items.
- We shall then publish a text and DVD/Video files. On this website we shall follow the progress of the work, and contributions will be partially published and fully accessed through registration as the work progresses.

Target

- Texts and scholarly demonstrations useful for ordinary musicians in a practical context, but also informative and educative in an educational setting.
- Texts and scholarly demonstrations for Church Musicians, Secondary School teachers, University students, the entire music community, researchers and music scholars.

FIRST SERIES

A. Choral/Instrumental direction

- ***Choir Practice***

Basics, Preparation, Order of Practice, Introducing/Learning a new music piece, Special aspects

- **Conducting technique**

Basics, Positioning, Time beats

- **Voice training resources**

Physiology, Phonetics, voice training as part of choir Practice, Order of warmups

- **Detailed example of a Choir rehearsal/Practice**
- **Gregorian Chant**

Basics, conducting technique and interpretation

- **Schola/Cantors**
- **Orchestra**

Basics of orchestral direction, Instruments and Bands, their place in the Liturgy

- **Choir and Ensembles for Pop-Music in the Liturgy**
- **Focus on the Music Director**

Central role, qualities, training, ongoing training, administrative/leadership roles

- **Short Video demonstrations of key aspects**

B. Practical application in a Liturgical (Mass) – setting

Guidelines

- Repertoire examples and how to go about them: Hymns, Western/Traditional mix (e.g Fr. James Kabuye), Gregorian (Latin, Ganda Style, Psalms), Ganda, Modern style.
- Instrumental accompanying/Playing, Repertoire, Improvisation examples, orchestral accompaniment, Organ/Piano
- New repertoire/Compositions to be integrated: Possibility of a new sang-Mass (Composition) for the Priest (Eucharistic Prayer)
- Arrangements for MTO Hymns and other Pieces
- Hymn Texts/Analyses could be structured thus:
 - 1) Background to the Piece: Text and Liturgical context/use
 - 2) Analysis: *Composition Technique* (Form, melody, harmony);
 - 3) *Performance practice* (Intonation, Dynamics, Rhythm, Voices and possible Choir arrangements and approaches)
 - 4) Suggestions for instrumental accompaniment
 - 5) Suggestions for the Choir director (Conducting, Rehearsal approach)

A full version Mass will be recorded at the end to integrate all these elements and show how they come into play in a real liturgical setting.

NB: This Practical Liturgical setting will be done repeatedly, and remain the basis of all our demonstrations.

C. Position Paper

- The context of our liturgical music: Universality and Particularity. Historical development of the Ganda Liturgy (Pre, Post Vatican II), Panoramic view of our music. Compositional techniques and styles of our Music.
- Approaches to western vocal music
- Addition of Variety, Creativity to traditional Ganda Music (Ideas for Ganda Ensembles, Liturgical traditional Dance/Creative Dance)

SECOND SERIES

- **We can focus on Theory, Composition and Liturgical accompaniment/Improvisation.**

THIRD SERIES

- **Ethnomusicology: Special Focus on Traditional Ganda Music**

FOURTH SERIES

- **Detailed History and Development of Liturgy and Music in Uganda**