

Introduction

A composer frequently needs to work fast, efficiently and cohesively to get the completed composition, song or film cues to the client before deadline. Over time, it has become clear to me that composers also need many tools, or techniques, in their arsenal to create this music and meet the demand. This is particularly true in the world of commercial music where deadlines, and the threat of *never working in this town again*, are ways of life. The thought of the downbeat, or beginning of the recording session, is at 9 AM and you are still composing the music at 8 AM, can be a scary feeling!

Presenting techniques pioneered by Los Angeles film composer/orchestrator Jack Smalley and the late composer George Tremblay, *All Twelve – Dodecaphonic Sources for Contemporary Composition*, will give the seasoned professional and the budding amateur alike more tools to explore and create with. These techniques are derived from Dodecaphonic, or 12 - Tone as they are more commonly known, sources. Because of the random nature that the notes tend to appear in, it is very likely that you will uncover many interesting, and "ear opening," melodies/chord progressions that you might not otherwise create. One can follow the technique's to create new and exciting music or use them as methods to get your "composer's ear" warmed up. This second process can be equated to an instrumentalist playing scales or other material to get their fingers loosened up before a performance – sometimes the ear needs to have a little help getting warmed up to create too.

The reader should be familiar with an intermediate to advanced level of harmony/music theory to get the most out of this book. The techniques themselves are not difficult to comprehend. However, the extent to which you can apply them will be limited only by your lack of understanding in the above areas.

Above all, have fun exploring this material. Try not to discard an idea because it doesn't analyze a particular way that you might have been taught. Trust your "ear."