

Manual Technique

Utah Valley Chapter AGO - Super Saturday - April 26, 2008

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Basic manual techniques

- Attack and Release
- Legato
- Independence

Three listening skills (Don Cook: *Organtutor*, 2005. Manual 7)

- Precisely time releases
- Perfect legato
- Independence of the line

Six organ fingering techniques (Don Cook: *The New LDS Organist*, 2007)

- Direct fingering
- Finger crossing
- Finger substitution
- Finger glissando
- Thumb glissando
- Redistribution of inner part

Independence of the line (Don Cook: *Organtutor*, 2005. Manual 9-22)

- between the two hands
- among fingers of each hand

Repeated notes and phrase endings

- Repeated notes need separation
- Continuity of organ tone requires planned rests (breaths) between phrases
- Step by step method:
 1. Become release conscious at phrase endings.
 2. Repeat all repeated notes in the melody (soprano).
 3. Repeat all repeated notes which cross a bar line.
 4. Repeat all repeated notes in each voice.

The Six Legato Organ Fingering Techniques

Direct Fingering

Musical notation for Direct Fingering. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. Fingerings are indicated above the notes: 3 1, 2 4, 3 5, 2 3 5, 5 1, 5 2, 4 1, 4 3, 2 1.

Redistribution of the Inner Part

Musical notation for Redistribution of the Inner Part. It features a two-staff system (treble and bass clefs) in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. Fingerings are indicated above and below the notes. The upper staff uses fingerings like 5 4 3 5, 3 4 3 4, 5 3, 4 5, 4 3, 2 3 4, 4 5, 4 3, 2. The lower staff uses fingerings like 4 1 2 4, 2 4, 2 1 2 1, 2 4, 1 2, 1 2, 5 4 5, 4 4, 5 2, 4 5, 2 5, 4 1, 4 2, 2.

Finger Crossing (*circles added for emphasis only*)

Musical notation for Finger Crossing. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. Circles are drawn around specific fingering pairs to highlight finger crossings: (1 2), (2 1), (5 4), (4 5), (3 2), (2 1), (4 3), (3 1), (2).

Finger Glissando

Musical notation for Finger Glissando. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. Circles are drawn around specific fingering pairs to highlight glissando techniques: (2 3 4), (1 - 1), (4 - 4), (5), (5 4 3 2 1), (5 - 5), (1 - 2).

Finger Substitution

Musical notation for Finger Substitution. The piece is in 6/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. Circles are drawn around specific fingering pairs to highlight substitution techniques: (5 3), (5 4 3 4), (5 4 3 2 1), (4 5), (4 5 1 2), (4 1).

Thumb Glissando

Musical notation for Thumb Glissando. The piece is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The tempo is marked 'Slow'. The notation shows a series of chords and glissandos. Fingerings are indicated below the notes: 1 4, 2 5, 1-1-1, 4 5 4 5 4, 2 5, 1-1-1, 4 5 4 5 4, 1 3, 1 5, 1 3, 2 3, 2 3, 2 3, 3 2, 3 2, 3 2, 1 3, 5 5, 4 5, 5 4, 5 4, 5.