

Line Spinning and Improvisation

This is a crash course in melodic variation and improvisation. Veretski Pass will take an exhaustive array of typical motives used for beginnings, transitions, cadences, fills and modulations to spin out variations using the "Simon-says" method. Students will learn to fill or spread out intervals of a melody using augmentation and diminution – techniques indigenous to Gypsy and Jewish improvisation with parallels to Baroque performance practices.

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A crash course in applied ear-training and improvisation in the old style. Participants will be shown how to extract the skeletal structure of a melody on the spot, isolating motivic cells and varying them immediately through the "simon-says" method. Ornamentation and Macro-improvisation concepts will be shown in detail, and students will be shown how to spin out complex lines.