

My personal approach of using the Iranian santour

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Playing on multiple voices on the santour - 2

In a series of texts, I present different techniques to play on several voices on the santour. The present text is the second one in the series.

In the following, I will illustrate a technique that allows to add a bass voice and a middle voice to a melody with the example of excerpts from my composition for the santour "The water's footsteps" ("Sedaye pays aab", in Persian).

Figures 2 and 3 show two excerpts from the composition which are passages to the rhythm of waltz, with the melody doubled with a bass note (the C3) on the first beat of the measures. In measures where the melody note lasts for 3 beats, two notes are used for the middle voice (the G3 and the C4).

Note that for the simplicity of writing, I did not use separate stems with opposite directions to distinguish the 3 voices. Moreover, given the accompanying role of G3 and C4, I consider the construction being in 3 voices (melody, bass and accompaniment) and not in 4 voices.

thus:

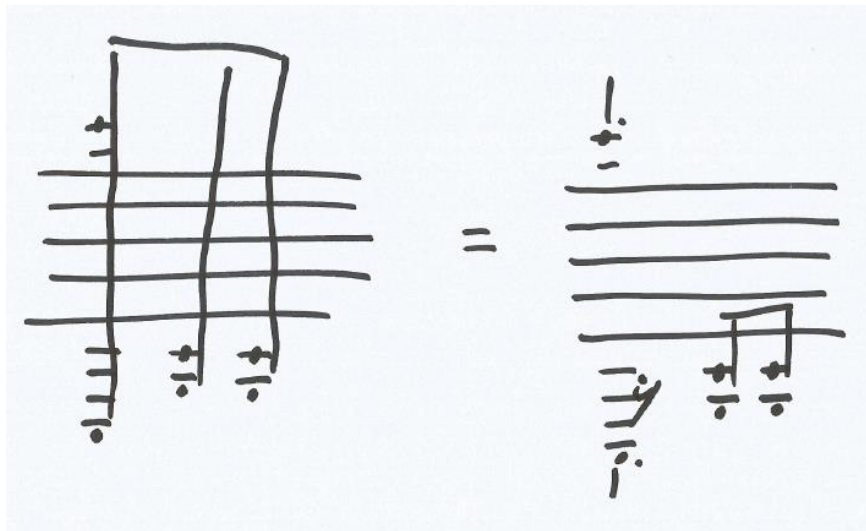


Figure 1

You can see the complete version of my transcription with this link: [The water's footsteps music score](#)

You can listen to it with this link: [The water's footsteps video](#)

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Figure 2

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Figure 3