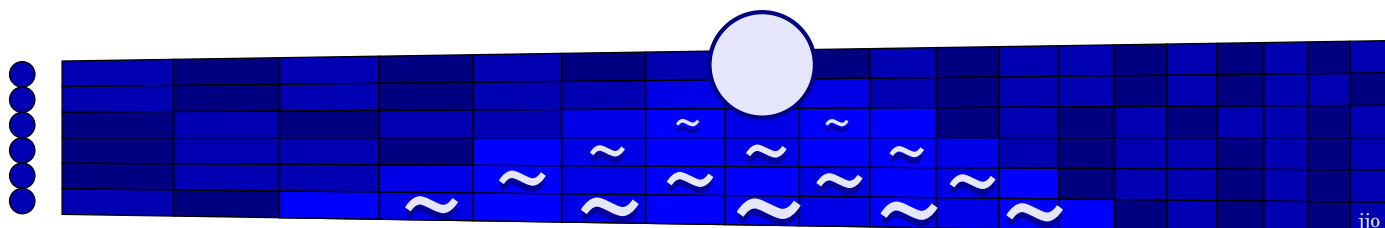


August Fretboard Exercises

A Moonlight Sightread



Exercise 1: I 2

♩ = 60



Exercise 1 Debussy: Suite Bergamasque, L.75, No.3, Clair de Lune 1

Clair de Lune (Light of the Moon) is Debussy's third movement of his Suite Bergamasque.

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suite_bergamasque#3._Clair_de_lune (history)
- <https://imslp.org/wiki/Special:ImagefromIndex/83536/hfpb> (pdf on IMSLP)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c977QdbTImU> (Rogé on piano, 2020)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_RnlOWmZD4 (Elfasci on guitar, 2016)

As a sightread this uses the full range of first position and is quite slow, making it fairly easy except for the rhythm. Notice the time signature of 9/8 and those strange even-numbered tuplets, same as in the original piano score.

The common triplet is a 3/2 tuplet, meaning you cram 3 notes into the space normally taken by two. But these even-numbered tuplets are the opposite; they slow down the notes so that just two fill the time normally taken by three. Specifically, the “2” is a 2/3 tuplet, the “4” is a 4/6 tuplet and the “6” is a 6/9 tuplet.

An easy way to read this piece is to regard it as having three beats to the measure with each set of three barred eighth notes behaving like a common triplet while the contents of all the 2/4/6 tuplets behave like unaltered eighth notes.

These exercises are from the yet to be released book “Chromatic Fretboard Exercises”, which contains over a thousand such exercises and will be made available for free on IMSLP. The contents may be freely copied and modified, but with the condition that they be attributed to J. J. Olson (CC-BY license).

Interested? Contact Jeff Olson at jjocanoe@gmail.com

*P.S. It easiest to follow these links if you **get the pdf** as indicated on the first page.*