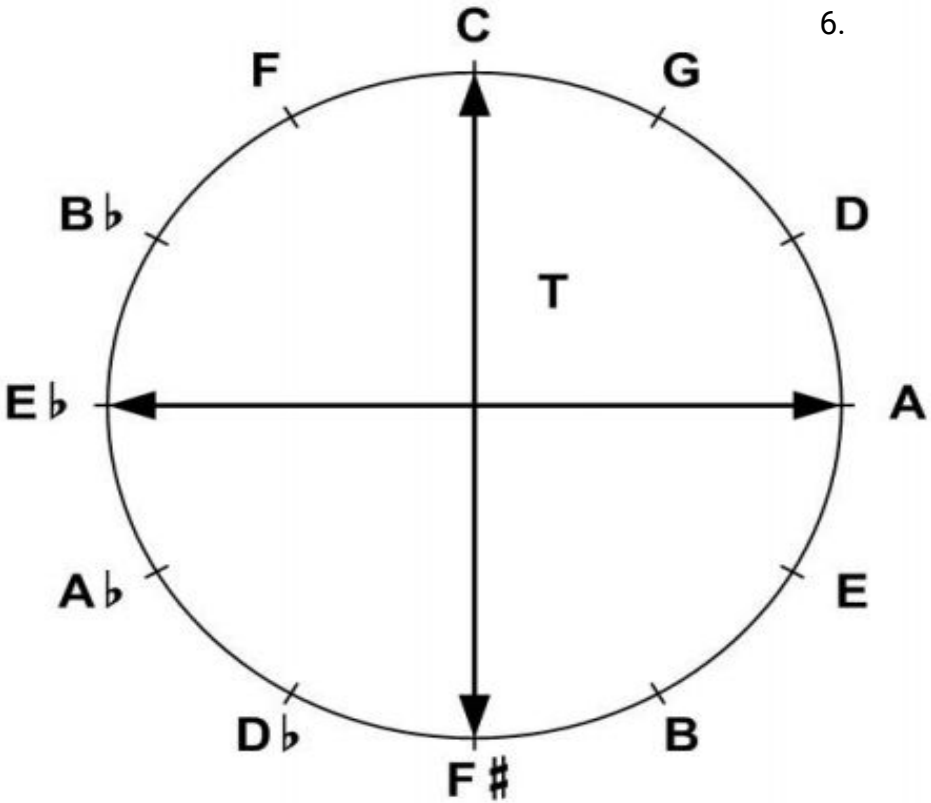
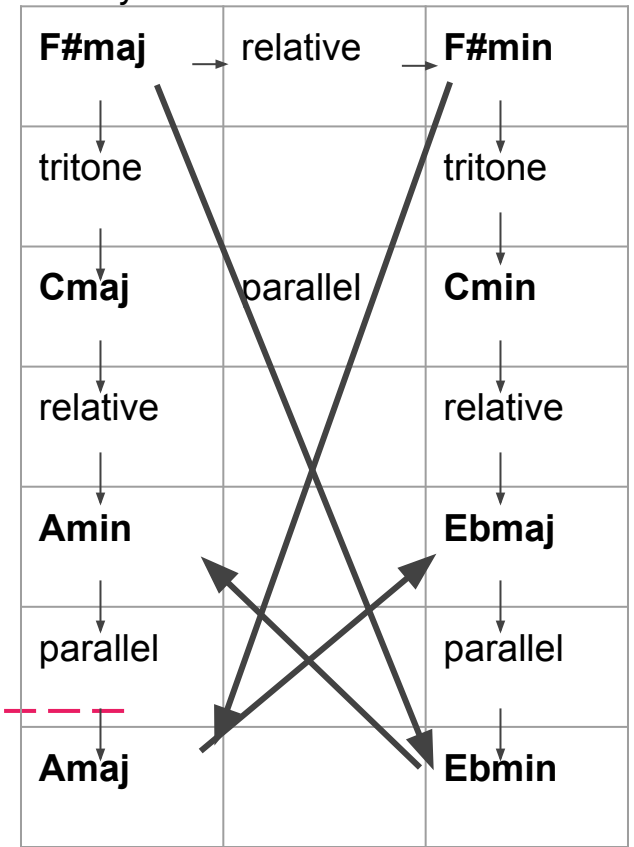
4. Birdsong

Bartok's Harmonic Axis

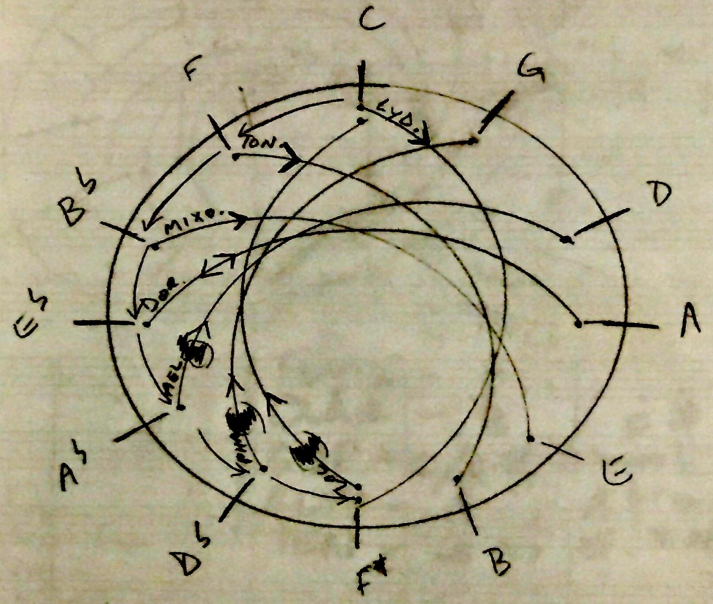
- Concept of tonal organization observed in Bartok's music
- based on key relationships (parallel, relative, tritone)
- Ex. key of C



6.

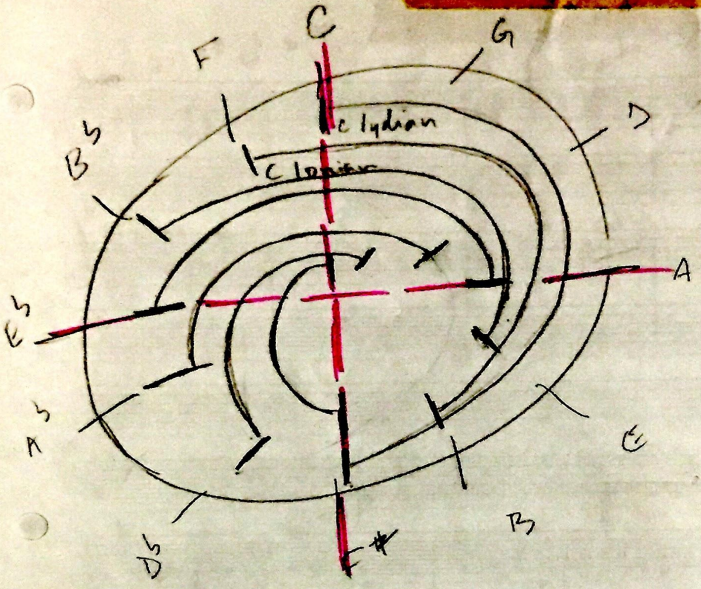


Expanding in 5ths
Condensing in 4ths



Lydian
Ionian
Mixolydian
Dorian
Aeolian
Phrygian
Locrian

Lyd



Less Brightness

Lydian
Ionian
Mixolydian
Dorian
Aeolian
Phrygian
Locrian

c

c expanding in 5ths

Bisects circle @ 3 & 9 – equal balance 4ths/5ths

c condensing in 4ths

extremes are tritones

C: M – M – M – m – m – m – d
C♯ – C♯ – F♯ – D♯ – A♯ – E♯ – B♭

F♯: M – M – M – m – m – m – d
C♯ – F♯ – B – G♯ – C♯ – A♯ – F♭

Characteristic Elements of Birdsong

1. Ordering of modes from bright to dark
2. Modulation of pedal point to tritone
3. Soli in Ab minor, new triad exploration
4. Aleatoric section behind flute and clarinet solos

“Bright to Dark Progression”

— — —

LYDIAN - IONIAN - MIXOLYDIAN - DORIAN - AEOLIAN - PHRYGIAN - LOCRIAN

(Maj - Maj - Maj - min - min - min - dim)

Cmaj - Gmaj - Dmaj - Amin - Emin - Bmin - F#dim **(drop root a semitone - adjust to Fmaj)**

Fmaj - Cmaj - Gmaj - Dmin - Amin - Emin - Bdim **(adjust to Bbmaj)**

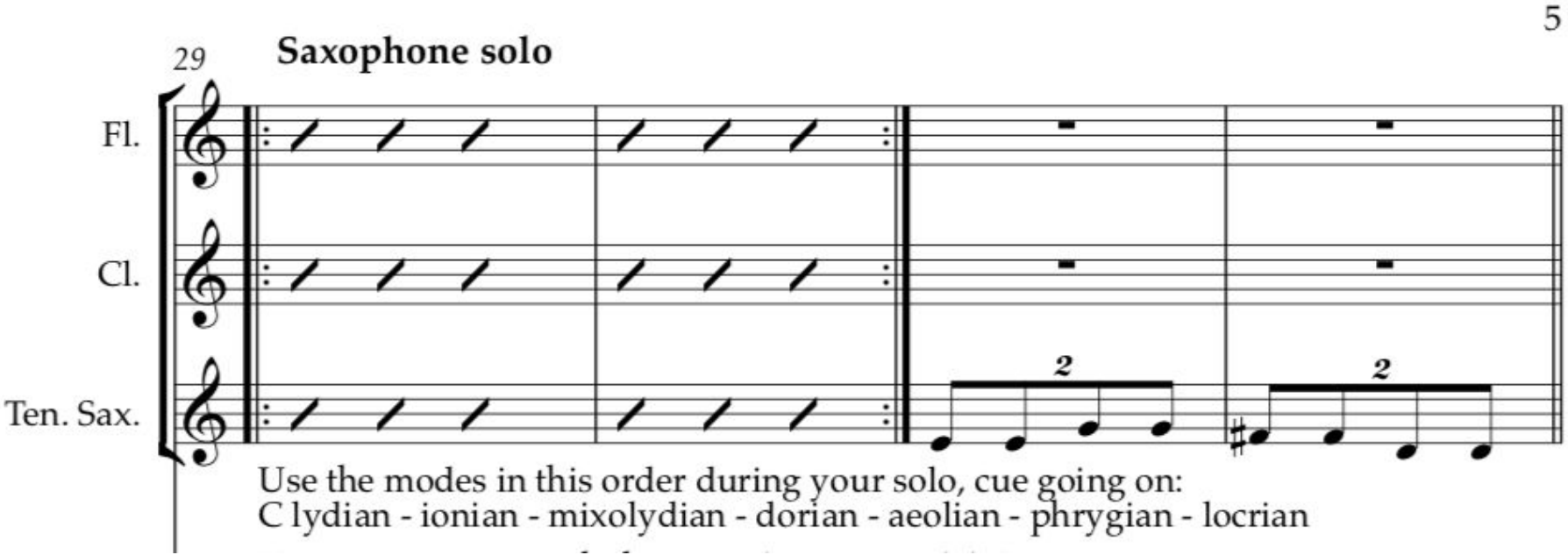
Bbmaj - Fmaj - Cmaj - Gmin - Dmin - Amin - Edim **(adjust to Ebmaj)**

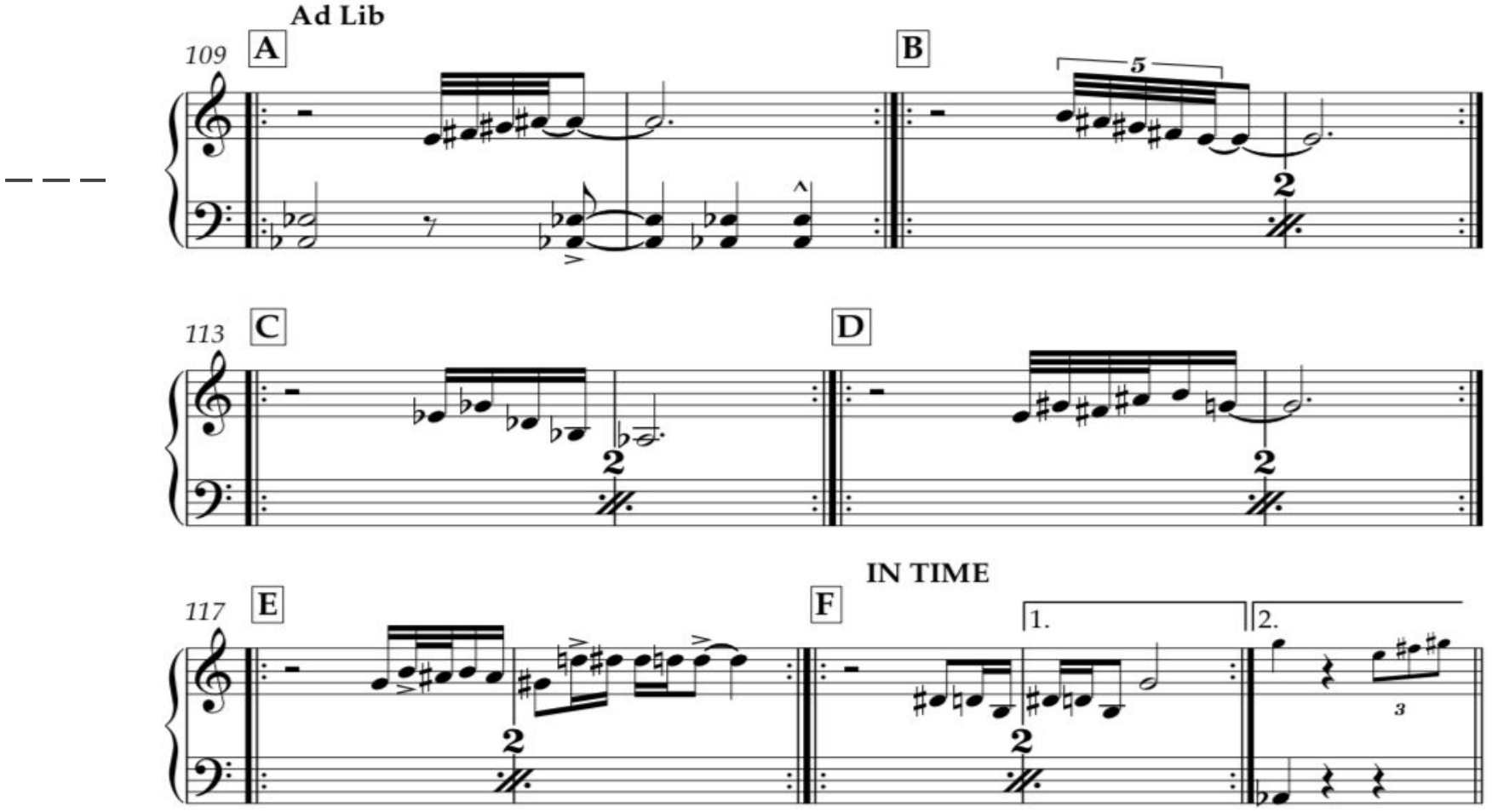
Ebmaj - Bbmaj - Fmaj - Cmin - Gmin - Dmin - Adim **(adjust to Abmaj)**

Abmaj - Ebmaj - Bbmaj - Fmin - Cmin - Gmin - Ddim **(adjust to Dbmaj)**

Dbmaj - Abmaj - Ebmaj- Bbmin - Fmin - Cmin - Gdim **(adjust to F and modulate to F#, tritone away)**

1st Open Improv Section




Ad Lib
109
A
B
5
2
113
C
D
2
2
117
E
F
IN TIME
1.
2.
2
2
3