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Esperanza Spalding: 'Samba Em Preludio'

Harmony & Tonality

- Chromatic chords
- Diminished 7th
- Complex harmony
- B minor (2 sharps)
- No key changes
- Extended chords
- Flattened 5th chords

Context

- Portuguese lyrics
- Bossa nova
- Lyricist: Vinicis de Moraes
- Performer: Esperanza Spalding
- Composer: Roberto Baden Powell Aquino
- Written in 1962
- Fusion of Brazilian Samba & Jazz

Performing Forces

- Acoustic bass guitar
  - Double stopping
  - Virtuosic bass solo
  - Mordents
  - Harmonic
- Acoustic guitar
  - Solo after V2
- Female vocals
  - Minor 10th range
  - Low range
  - Chest voice
  - Syllabic
  - Big leaps
  - Rubato

Texture

- Voice & bass duet is **polyphonic**
- The introduction is **monophonic**
- Mostly **homophonic**

Tempo, Metre & Rhythm

- Free tempo in introduction
- V1 - slow tempo with **rubato**
- Tempo doubles in **link**
- Free tempo near the end
- 4/4
- V1 - bass part is **syncopated**
- V2 - **longer** note values in vocal line

Melody

- Verse 2 (B)
  - Flattened **5th**
  - Stepwise
  - 16-bar idea
  - Note values **doubled**
- Two main melodies
- Verse 1 (A)
  - Eight-bar idea
  - **Arpeggio** shape
  - Downward sequence
  - Leaps of **3rds** or **7ths**
  - Flattened **5th** (F natural)

Structure

- Coda
- Guitar solo
- Link
- Introduction
- Verse 1 (A)
- Verse 2 (B)
- Voice & bass duet