Technology to Teach Keyboard Remotely

**Dr. Mario Ajero**, Stephen F. Austin State University  
**Dr. Alejandro Cremaschi**, University of Colorado Boulder

Summer Lunch & Learn Series - June 9, 2020
Synchronous or Real-Time Instruction

Asynchronous or Time-Shifted Instruction
Asynchronous or Time-Shifted Instruction
Group Piano Classes

Stephen F. Austin State University

• Majority of Music Majors are Choral and Instrumental Music Education Majors

• Large class sizes created need for alternative methods of assessment
Group Piano Classes

Stephen F. Austin State University

• Created hybrid of face-to-face piano lab and asynchronous online video exchanges

• Private Facebook Groups are platforms for students’ video submissions
Technology to Teach Keyboard Remotely

Dr. Ajero’s hardware

- MacBook Pro Computer
- MIDI-capable piano (Yamaha Disklavier Grand Piano)
- Logitech Webcam (c930e)
- On-Stage Boom Microphone Stand
- On-Stage CM01 Video Camera Adapter
Dr. Mario Ajero, Ph.D., NCTM
Professor of Piano
Stephen F. Austin State University
ajeromp@sfasu.edu

youtube.com/mariocast
Technology to Teach Keyboard Remotely

Dr. Ajero’s software

• **Classroom Maestro**

• MIDI app to visualize keys and notes in real time

• **ScreenFlow**

• Video editing and screen recording

Further Reading:


• How to Create Piano Lesson Videos with ScreenFlow and Classroom Maestro: [https://youtu.be/L-DVS5gc_TQ](https://youtu.be/L-DVS5gc_TQ)
Applied Lessons

U of Colorado Boulder - Spring 2020

- Challenges:
  - Quick switch
  - Instruments
  - Equipment
  - Internet connection
- Hybrid model (synchronous and asynchronous)
Applied Lessons

U of Colorado Boulder - Spring 2020

- Kawai ES110 for piano majors
- Casio CTK 4400 for non majors
- Blue Snowball USB mics or similar

- Zoom (optimized for audio – find guides online)
- Cleanfeed.com (for improved audio streaming – muting Zoom)

- Asynchronous + Synchronous
Applied Lessons

U of Colorado Boulder - Spring 2020

- Asynchronous:
  - Videos pre-recorded and shared before lesson or studio class
  - Could be “annotated” by teacher, student or peer
    - VideoAnt (ant.umn.edu)
    - ReClipped.com
    - timeline.ly
    - Dropbox

Further Reading:
- DropBox annotations. https://youtu.be/WzPAZrzCCmw
Two approaches for Fall 2020:
• Fully online (non-majors)
• Hybrid (music majors)
Class Piano

Non-major: fully online

• Mostly asynchronously
• Students own or borrow USB keyboard
• Instructor videos on Canvas LMS
  • Camtasia, Filmora, or Screenflow
• Regular video submissions
• Piano Marvel: interactive collection of pieces
  • Obtain specific grades
Class Piano

Non-major: fully online

- Video exchanges facilitated with:
  - Canvas (LMS)
  - Closed Facebook groups
  - Google Drive
  - Collabra Music (collabramusic.com)
  - MusicU (CU Boulder - soon available to others)
Class Piano

Music majors: hybrid approach

• Subgroups of 4 students
• Alternate in-person meetings
• Weekly video submissions
• eNovativePiano.com
  • E-textbook
  • Multimedia content
  • Instructional videos
Class Piano

U of Colorado Boulder

• Additional tools
  • musictheory.net
  • Key and note ID
  • Soundtrap.com
  • Asynchronous keyboard “ensemble” and improv
  • Flat.io
  • Written exercises
  • Group composition

Video Demonstrations:
  • Async keyboard “ensembles” with Soundtrap. https://youtu.be/COYBdkKQf2w
  • Async improvisation with Soundtrap. https://youtu.be/15mYs5Vl3x8
Effective pedagogy

Resources

• Piano Magazine: Teaching Piano in Time of COVID-19 (May 2020)
  https://claviercompanion.com

• Dumlavwalla, D. (2017). Transitioning From Traditional To Online Piano Lessons: Perceptions Of Students, Parents And Teacher. MTNA e-Journal 8(3)

One more thing...
Internet MIDI

timewarptech.com
Technology to Teach Keyboard Remotely

Dr. Mario Ajero, Stephen F. Austin State University
Dr. Alejandro Cremaschi, University of Colorado Boulder

Summer Lunch & Learn Series - June 9, 2020