

# ART OF REGGAE

## PIANO COURSE 2

### SPOTIFY CURATED PLAYLIST FOR PIANO COURSE 2: THE ROLE OF THE PIANO IN REGGAE MUSIC

Spotify link:

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/313UsHtAV7SXHe54BmylIN?si=9e95c68e06cb4194>

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Examples are listed only for the lessons that require them.

#### Lesson 2: Range & Length of Sustain

(There is a reverb slam at the very end which is expanded more fully on the dub FX one-shot.)

- **Crazy Baldhead** by Bob Marley. This is a good example of a *long sustain on the piano chop*.
- **Baby My Love** by Jah Stitch. Another example of a *long sustain piano chop*.
- **Again** by the Jazz Jamaica Allstars. This is a good example of a *medium sustain on the piano chop*.  
(There are a few good examples of 'Accent 2' in this track as well.)
- **They Gonna Talk** by Beres Hammond. A good example of a *short (staccato) piano chop*.

#### Lesson 3: Accents used to Spice up the Chop

- **Talking Love** by Lynn Tait and the Jets. *Accents 1 and 2* are used throughout this upbeat rock steady track. Listen carefully.
- **Put it On** Judy Mowatt version. Just the very intro has good example of *piano accent 1*.
- **Again** by the Jazz Jamaica Allstars has some very clear examples of *Accent 2 with a right hand lead*.

#### Lesson 5: Swing and Straight 8<sup>th</sup> Feel, Double Chop

- **One Drop** by Bob Marley. Example of a *swing 8<sup>th</sup> feel, single chop - piano*.  
(one-drop groove)
- **Trenchtown Rock** by Bob Marley, from Live at the Roxy 1976. Example of *swing 8<sup>th</sup> feel, single chop - e. piano* (Fender Rhodes keyboard)
- **Roots Rock Reggae** by Bob Marley. Example of *swing 8<sup>th</sup>, single chop - piano*  
(one-drop groove)
- **They Gonna Talk** by Beres Hammond. Example of *straight 8<sup>th</sup> feel, single chop - piano*.  
(one-drop groove)
- **Night Nurse** by Gregory Isaacs. A *straight 8<sup>th</sup> single chop - piano* (rockers groove)
- **War Ina Babylon** by Max Romeo. Example of a *straight 8<sup>th</sup> feel single chop - e. piano* (probably a Casio)
- **Sun is Shining** by Bob Marley. This is an example of a *straight 8<sup>th</sup> feel, double chop* (being played on organ but you can play it on piano as well).

It's difficult to find examples of double chop piano skank (straight and swing 8<sup>th</sup> feel) as it's mostly played on guitar. If anyone finds some examples, please email Matt! [vibes@artofreggae.com](mailto:vibes@artofreggae.com)

Lesson 6: Bubbling on Piano, Mento Bubble, Weighted vs. non Weighted Touch Keyboards.

- **Free Black People** by Burning Spear. Example of *Bubbling on the piano*: The first 16 seconds (the introduction) of this track is a straight 8<sup>th</sup> feel piano bubble, then the rest of the tune is a swing 8<sup>th</sup> feel piano bubble!
- **Hold Me Jack** by the Jolly Boys. This is a traditional mento song with traditional, folkloric instrumentation. The mento strum is played by the banjo.
- **What Does it Take (To Win Your Love)** by Alton Ellis. Example of a *straight 8<sup>th</sup> feel mento bubble* on guitar with ska-type beat.
- **Harder and Harder** by Alton Ellis. Example of a *Straight 8<sup>th</sup> mento bubble* (or strum) on guitar
- **Funkey Funkey Funkey Reggay** by the Skatalites. Example of a *Straight 8<sup>th</sup> feel mento bubble* (or strum) on guitar.
- **Rhythm 77** by Lord Echo: good *straight 8<sup>th</sup> mento bubble* (or strum) guitar.
- **I And I Survive (Slavery Days)** by Burning Spear. This is a dub version of his famous tune "Slavery Days." Example of a *swing 8<sup>th</sup> mento bubble on PIANO*. You will hear the piano being faded in and out. Note that the main groove is swing 8<sup>th</sup> feel but the piano mento bubble leans towards the straight 8<sup>th</sup> feel.
- **Book of Rules** by The Heptones. Example of a *straight 8<sup>th</sup> feel piano bubble*. (one drop groove)
- **Free the Whole Wide World** by Burning Spear. Example of a *swing 8<sup>th</sup> feel piano bubble*. NOT ON SPOTIFY.)
  
- **Hang On** by the Ethiopians. Example of a *straight 8<sup>th</sup> feel triple chop on piano*. This is not covered in this course because more often you'll hear a triple chop on organ, but it's listed here as a unique recording. Check the Organ course 1 for more on the triple chop.