INSTRUCTOR: John Castellano  
Contact: 212-741-0091 x103 / johnc@thecollective.edu  
Office hours. 5-6 at The Collective, 541 Ave. of the Americas (btwn. 14th & 15th)

Course Description
This course is designed as a follow-up of *Rudiments of Contemporary Musicianship* and focuses on helping students further develop their understanding of popular music by presenting the opportunity to experience music as a musician. Students brush up on basic music theory, musicianship skills, and rehearse student composed ensemble pieces. The goal is for each student to be able to understand, compose, and perform original contemporary pieces of music in a range of pop and jazz idioms. The workshop meets in a professional, fully equipped music studio, where students have access to a wide variety of musical instruments.

1. **Musicianship**  
   **Theory**  
   REVIEW: Music staff - clefs - note names - lines & spaces - key signatures - scales - cycle of 5ths.  
   NEW: Song forms - triad & 7th chords-chord progressions  
   **Sight-Reading**  
   Rhythm and pitch separately, then together  
   **Ear Training**  
   Intervals, Triad & 7th chords, and common chord progressions.

2. **Song Analysis**  
   Analysis of songs, from various periods of US popular music, as well as songs selected by students. Analysis focuses on dramatic form, meter, style, instrumentation, etc.

3. **Composition, Rehearsal and Performance**  
   Students will work in small ensembles to compose, rehearse, and perform their music. Initially, groups are assigned compositional challenges, which focus on a particular set of parameters. These compositions are performed in class each week, and are critiqued by fellow students and the instructor. Towards the end of the semester, “final” performance groups are formed with the challenge and opportunity to create a set of compositions to be performed at the semester-end public recital.

4. **Student Papers & Discussions**  
   Students will have the opportunity to pick a musical topic and write a brief paper on the subject. Ensuing class discussions will focus on developing the topics presented in the paper.

5. **Public Recital**  
   The course will culminate with a student recital of original music, which will be open to the public.
COURSE POLICIES & PROCEDURES

COURSE POLICIES

6. Course Materials
   Course materials are supplied by the instructor via weekly emails to the class.

7. Grading
   The following represent minimum standards for maintaining a grade of A.
   A. Students are expected to attend a minimum of 12 classes. Missing more than 12 classes will result in a ½ step lowering of the course grade.
   B. The completion of all homework assignments.
   C. Passing the mid-term theory exam with a minimum grade of 90%. “Redos” available upon request.
   D. Submission of an individual “topic” paper on a musical theme.
   E. Participation in a meaningful manner in all rehearsals and the final recital.

8. Course Policies and Procedures
   A. Please contact me if you will be missing a class. (212) 741-0091 X103 – johnc@thecollective.edu
   B. Bring your course material to class - every class until I say not to.
   C. Tell me before class, if you have to leave early.
   D. Tell before the day that a class meets if you have a conflict with another class. Credits in this situation are not automatically given.
   E. I will send you all the materials you will need in advance - you need only open them, print them out, an bring them to class.
   F. I know it's been a long day, but please cover up when you yawn.
   G. Please turn off your cell phone and please don’t send or receive texts while in class.
   H. Drinks are OK in class, but if you haven’t had a chance to eat, please do it in the lounge, not in class.

9. Academic Integrity
   “As a Gallatin student you belong to an interdisciplinary community of artists and scholars who value honest and open intellectual inquiry. This relationship depends on mutual respect, responsibility, and integrity. Failure to uphold these values will be subject to severe sanction, which may include dismissal from the University. Examples of behaviors that compromise the academic integrity of the Gallatin School include plagiarism, illicit collaboration, doubling or recycling coursework, and cheating. Please consult the Gallatin Bulletin or Gallatin website (http://gallatin.nyu.edu/academics/policies/integrity.html).”

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND GOALS
revised: 1/28/14

The following is a summary listing of the learning objectives and goals for each student:

1. Understanding the basics of music theory.
2. Developing aural skills as they pertain the recognition of standard chords and chord progressions.
3. Developing an understanding of “dramatic form” and how it applies to music.
4. Gaining practical experience in composing, rehearsing, and performing original music in a group setting.

CLASS SCHEDULE
CLASS #1 - 1/28
1. Course and Student Introductions
2. Individual “Intro” performances, optional
3. Music Theory Placement Test
4. Discussion of course focus & schedule
5. Individual Meetings with John

Class #2 - 2/4
1. Music Theory: Intervals & Triads
2. Skills: Diatonic Intervals
3. Discussion and demonstration of dramatic content
4. Music Analysis: Examples of Dramatic Content
5. Individual Performances / A Cappella Pieces – if time allows

Class #3 - 2/11
1. Music Theory: Diatonic Chord Substitutions
2. Skills: Diatonic Chord Substitutions

Class #4 - 2/18
1. 7th Chords & Blues
2. 7th Chords
3. Music Analysis: Gershwin: But Not For Me, I’ve Got Rhythm, Summertime

Class #5 - 2/25
1. Music Theory: Minor Mode
2. Skills: Minor vs. Major modes

Class #6 - 3/4
1. Music Theory: Review of all material to date
2. Music Analysis: Rodgers: P.W.S. We’re In Love, Hello Young Lovers, My Favorite Things

Class #7 - 3/11
1. Mid Term Exam
2. Individual Performances of selected songs.
3. Mid-term interviews with John

3/18
Spring Break (3/17-3/22)

Class #8 - 3/25
1. Discussion: TBA

Class #9 - 4/1
1. Discussion: TBA

Class #10 - 4/8
1. Discussion: TBA
3. 1st Rehearsal & Performance of final group pieces

Class #11 - 4/15
1. Planning Sessions:
2. Music Analysis: Paul Simon: Me & Julio, S.Crazy After All These Years, 50 Ways
3. 2nd Rehearsal of Final Groups

Class #12 - 4/22
1. Recital preparation – Recital Pieces

Class #13 - 4/29
   Continued rehearsal: Recital Pieces

Class #14 - 5/6
   Final Recital
New Student Questionnaire

Name: _______________________________  S.I.D. __________________

Day Tel.:______________  Even. tel.: ______________  e-mail___________________

1. What would you like to get out of this course? ________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

2. Describe your musical experience, if any, to date. ______________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

3. Do you play or have access to an instrument? If so, which one(s)?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

4. Which types or genres of music do you listen to, and who are some of your favorite artists?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

5. Are there any specific musical topics or concepts that you would like to study?
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________