

Reconceptualizing the *Lydian Chromatic Concept*: George Russell as Historical Theorist

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Member scales of the F Lydian Chromatic Scale.

Principal scales		Lydian	—
		Lydian augmented	3rd mode of melodic minor, 7th mode of acoustic
		Lydian diminished	4rd mode of harmonic major
		Lydian flat seventh	Acoustic, 4th mode of melodic minor
		Auxiliary augmented	Whole-tone
		Auxiliary diminished	Octatonic (whole-half), diminished
		Auxiliary dim. blues	Octatonic (half-whole), diminished
		Major	
Horizontal scales		Major flat seventh	
		Major augmented fifth	
		African-American blues	

Modes of the C Lydian scale.

Mode	Spelling	Principal chordmode	Sub-principal chords
I Major	C D E F# G A B	Cmaj13#11	CM (triad), Cmaj6, Cmaj7, Cmaj7b5
II Seventh	D E F# G A B C	D13	D7, D9, D11
VI Minor	A B C D E F# G	Am13	Am (triad), Am6, Am7, Am9, Am11
III Major (IIIb/Minor +5)	E F# G A B C D	Cmaj13#11/E	C/E, Cmaj7/E, etc.
+IV Minor Seventh b5	F# G A B C D E	F#m11 b5 b9 b13	F#m7b5, F#m7b5b9, F#m11b5b9
V Major (Vb)	G A B C D E F#	Cmaj13#11/G	C/G, Cmaj7/G, etc.
VII Eleventh b9 (VIIb)	B C D E F# G A	Cmaj13#11/B	B11b9, C/B, Cmaj9/B, Cmaj9#11/B

Common chords in the modes of the F Lydian Chromatic Scale. (Inspired by Russell's Chart A.)

	Diatonic	Lyd. augmented	Lyd. diminished	Lyd. ♭7	Whole-tone	WH diminished	HW diminished	Blues
	FGABCDE	FGABC♯DE	FGA♭BCDE	FGABCDE♭	FGABC♯E♭	FGA♭B♭BC♯DE	FG♭A♭ABCDE♭	FA♭AB♭BCDE♭
I	Fmaj7 <i>Lydian</i>	Fmaj7♯5 <i>Lyd. augmented</i>	— <i>Harmonic major</i>	F7 <i>Acoustic</i>	Faug (triad)	F°7		Fmaj7, Fm7, F7
II	G7 <i>Mixolydian</i>	G7♯11, G7♭5 <i>Lydian dominant</i>	G7♭9	G7♯5	G7♯5, G7♭5	G7♭9, G7♭5		
+IV	Bm7♭5 <i>Locrian</i>	Bm7♭5 <i>Locrian #2</i>	B°7	Bm7♭5 <i>Altered, dim.WT</i>			Bm7♭5	
+V					D♭7♯5, D♭7♭5	D♭7♯5, D♭7♯9		
VI	Dm7 <i>Dorian</i>	DmM7 <i>Melodic minor</i>	Dm7♭5	Dm7♭9			Dm7, Dm7♭5	
VII	E7♭9 <i>Phrygian</i>	E7♭9	E7alt.					

Alternate scale names are given in italics; less common chords are shown in gray.

Complete slides/examples available online via the SMT conference website or at www.mcclimon.org/projects/lcc.html. Please feel free to contact me via email (michael@mcclimon.org) or on Twitter (@mmcclimon).