

# Spice It up!

Arranging and Improv Workshop ala Martha Gallagher  
*Tips, Tools, Techniques, Ideas and Inspirations for spicing up your music*  
Harp Gathering 2021  
[www.adkharper.com](http://www.adkharper.com)

**Welcome to my workshop! I will begin by saying,  
"I am not a teacher - I am an awakener."  
I share these tips, tools, techniques,  
ideas and inspirations to help awaken  
players to wonderful possibilities!**

**Workshop notes include outline, examples and sheet music pdf (Amazing Grace, key of G). This workshop pairs nicely with Denise's LH, Leader of the Band workshop.  
Note: Song titles in orange indicate music in my  
Harp Gathering concert.**

~ **The simplest of all...** and harp players do it *best* - **Glissssssssssssssssssss!**

- Many ways to glissando - **GLISS WITH GLEE!**
- What can I say...they sound cool!
- Create atmosphere
- Gets us from here to there - hi to low, etc.
- Fill time, space **Leverage\***
- Give time for lever changes
- Dramatic or atmospheric way to end piece **Chipmunk Scoot\***

~ **Lone melody line** - Be **BOLD!** don't be afraid of SPACE!

~ **Parallel single note lines** - 3rds, 4ths, 5ths, octaves apart etc. **The Smile in Your Eyes\***

~ **Ornamentation and Fills**- grace notes, turns, "trip up," trip down," fills - fill in those nooks and crannies with notes, runs, patterns, etc. **Here, there and everywhere throughout my music\***

~ **Trill** - 1 or 2 fingers - **Intro of Leverage\***

~ **Contrary motion** take your melodic or bass lines in different directions - one going up and the other goes down.

~ **Chords** - partials (3rds, open 5ths, etc), inversions (see handout)

~ **Drumming** on sound board **Sing Along\***

~ **Change time** signature; feel, flavor

~ **Rhythmic chords** - see notated pattern in handout. **The Smile in Your Eyes\*** uses it; sheet music available for purchase at <https://marthagallagher.bandcamp.com>

~ **Damping** - what it is, does, why, how to - **Leverage\***

~ **Delicious Blue Notes** (In the key of G, try sliding from an B natural (lever up) to an Bb, letting the slide sound. **Chipmunk Scoot\***

I play Amazing Grace through several times at end of workshop video. I invite you to play along, experimenting using the possibilities we explore in this workshop.

### **Keep in touch!**

I'd love to hear how your harp journey is going! If you have a question - one you might have asked if we were doing this live - or you're excited to share a wonderful golden music moment you've had.

**I am available for private mentoring sessions. Email me to book your one-on-one virtual session(s) at [martha@adkharper.com](mailto:martha@adkharper.com)**

Thank you for joining me for this virtual workshop.  
It has been a delight to share this time with you.

*Keep smiling! Keep playing! Keep adding your unique beauty to this world!*

# Amazing Grace

Martha Gallagher's *Spice It Up Wksp*  
Harp Gathering 2021

arr. Martha Gallagher

John Newton

Gently ♩ = 100

Lever Harp

Chords: G, G/B, C

Hp.

Chords: G, G, G

Hp.

Chords: D, D, G

Hp.

Chords: G/B, C, G

Hp.

Chords: G, D, G, G

17 G G/B C

Hp.

20 G Em G

Hp.

23 D G

Hp.


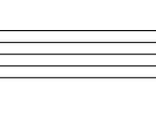
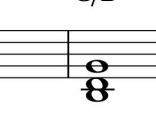
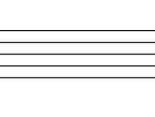
26 G/B C G

Hp.

29 Em D C G

Hp.

# Chord Inversion Basics

G	G/B	G/D	G
			
G Chord - root (G) on bottom	G chord first inversion w/3rd (B) on bottom	G chord second inversion with 5th (D) on bottom	G chord octave up

## Rhythmic Pattern #1

Martha Gallagher



This pattern can be played letting the strings ring or you can damp the notes immediately after playing them, using your palm or just fingers. Keep hands relaxed when doing this, so there is structure but not stressful rigidity. Damping the notes gives the pattern a much more staccato punch, making it sound kinda funky, jazzy.

You don't have to use the pattern throughout an entire song. Play four bars as the intro to your piece, then play the song as usual, filling in between verses with this pattern. This way the pattern is implied even when you're not actually playing it. This sometimes makes it easier to play the song, plus the pattern is not being used ad nauseum, which can negate its effectiveness.

If you have any questions or come up with a cool pattern you'd like to share, please don't hesitate to email me - I'd love to hear from you!

Play around with other time signatures, accents, etc. and discover your own patterns - have fun!!

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