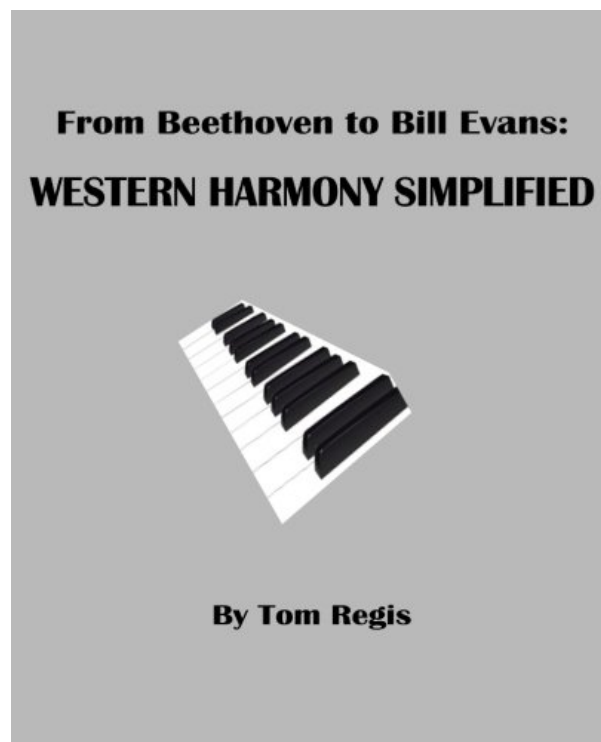


# **FROM BEETHOVEN TO BILL EVANS: WESTERN HARMONY SIMPLIFIED BY TOM REGIS**



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## About the Author

Tom Regis is a pianist and multi-instrumentalist whose childhood was filled with the music of Beethoven, the Beatles, and the Allman Brothers, as well as his mother singing American standards. After high school, Tom's musical course veered towards New England Conservatory and the tutelage of Ran Blake, Madame Chaloff, Charlie Banacos and Joseph Manieri. During this period, Tom was introduced to the hypnotic pulse of Latin grooves and began his life-long involvement with performing, composing, arranging and teaching Afro-Cuban music. Tom achieved various credits in this area including a two year stint performing with Celia Cruz. Tom's musical journey also led him to the recording studio scenes of New York City, Los Angeles, and Tel Aviv. Tom worked with many great names of the music world including Eddie Gomez, Ron Carter Michael Brecker, Randy Brecker, Will Lee, Marcus Miller, Phoebe Snow, Patti Austin, Omar Hakim, Danny Gottlieb, Michael Bolton, John Taylor (Duran Duran), Grace Jones, Marianne Faithful, Tone Loc, Rafi, Gilberto Gil, Cheb Mami, Teddie Pendegrass, Johnny Clegg, Celia Cruz, Ofra Haza and others. Tom also composed numerous songs, jingles, and underscores, many of which have been placed in shows including the West Wing, Oprah, One Life to Live, Reba, and others. In 2004, Tom graduated law school and practiced law for five years in Los Angeles while continuing to compose, and perform (with gospel artist Eileen Seals and the Church of Destiny Band, and others). In 2008, Tom began writing From Beethoven to Bill Evans: WESTERN HARMONY SIMPLIFIED, completing the book in early 2012. Tom is presently living in South Florida and is working on composing original material and performing locally playing jazz, rock, and blues. Please visit Tom's website [www.tomregismusic.com](http://www.tomregismusic.com) for additional information.

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# **FROM BEETHOVEN TO BILL EVANS: WESTERN HARMONY SIMPLIFIED BY TOM REGIS PDF**

From Beethoven to Bill Evans: Western Harmony Simplified is a unique music “theory” book. Author Tom Regis draws from his background as a classically trained pianist steeped in various ‘popular’ styles, and, also as a writer and former attorney, to organize a seemingly complex subject into its most fundamental components. The result is a study of harmony that provides a careful step by step analysis designed to open the reader to the simple idea of the seven tone system that lies at the core of the Western musical heritage. The book is unique in that it not only provides the kind of exercises and examples we have become familiar with in a music theory book, but also in its from the ground up presentation of the organic mechanisms that build this system. This is neither a purely jazz or classical approach to learning harmony; it is an approach that views all of Western music as being derived from the same source. At times detailed in the text and not shy of a philosophical bent, the author has also kept the presentation simple, utilizing a piano keyboard graphic as the basis for the numerous examples. An extensive appendices section contains reinforcing materials for the body of the book as well as materials designed for more detailed study. These sections continue to use the piano keyboard graphics but also introduce examples in a staff note format that can include those readers inexperienced with musical notation. About the author The author is a pianist and composer presently residing in South Florida. He has worked with many greats of the music world including Celia Cruz, Eddie Gomez, Ofra Haza, Hans Zimmer, Michael Brecker and others. As a composer, he has placed numerous pieces on national television shows including Good Morning America, Oprah, the West Wing, and One Life to Live. Mr. Regis is currently working on a book outlining composer Arnold Schoenberg’s masterwork on Classical harmony, the Schoenberg Theory of Harmony.

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At last!

By Amazon Fan

I've been playing a music instrument, professionally and as a hobby, since I was 10. In the late 1970s I was admitted to the music program of prestigious US university. Two years later I dropped out of the music major program and eventually became a lawyer. What made me lose interest in my school's music program was having to master figured bass notation and the writing style of Palestrina, among other seemingly irrelevant chores. After that I had a closed mind to music theory for years and years; I had a feeling that music professors were presenting the material in a needlessly obfuscated manner, but I didn't know how to find clarity – until now. Tom Regis presents music harmony in a sublimely clear manner. I would replace every music theory course book in the country with Tom's book. If Tom's book had been used in my school's music department, who knows where I could be today! Maybe a struggling musician(?)

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Tom Regis' "Western Harmony Simplified" provides a clear and concise road map that guides the novice or experienced musician through western harmony "from Beethoven to Bill Evans" -- with a bit of Beatles, be-bop and Bo Diddley thrown in for good measure. From simple scale structures to complex chord construction, Regis blends intellectual theory and easy to read diagrams with practical tips from his years as a professional. If you are just learning, this is a great tool and if you are already well along in your studies, "Western Harmony Simplified" provides a fresh prospective.

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The perfect answer for the self taught or privately trained musician who wants to know and understand more. I have read other books that explain the same principals but in every case they were hard to follow and had lots of gaps in their explanations. This book is void of that problem and as a result, if read carefully, it clearly makes sense of the seemingly obscure. Every page is jam packed with information, and it tell a clear and detailed story.

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