

# A Practical Approach to 16th Century Counterpoint, Revised Edition

By Robert Gauldin



### **A Practical Approach to 16th Century Counterpoint, Revised Edition** By Robert Gauldin

Practical work in writing counterpoint! Robert Gauldin emphasizes the acquisition of writing skills in the contrapuntal discipline and the simulation of sixteenth century sacred polyphonic idioms in this volume. The author follows a didactic method of a "non species or direct" approach. While no previous contrapuntal training is necessary to absorb this material, some acquaintance with Baroque polyphonic terminology proves helpful.

Key features include: musical examples illustrating specific devices are taken from musical literature or composed by the author; demonstrates the possibility of employing a single given pitch series within the contexts of different compositional techniques; includes a collection of complete or excerpted movements drawn from musical literature at the conclusion of each major textual division; emphasizes Palestrina and the Counter Reformation sacred style; discusses various compositional procedures of the late Renaissance, including paraphrase, cantus firmus, familiar style, parody, polychoral technique, and chromaticism.

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## A Practical Approach to 16th Century Counterpoint, Revised Edition By Robert Gauldin Bibliography

• Sales Rank: #1338810 in Books

Published on: 2013-02-28Original language: English

• Dimensions: 8.75" h x 6.50" w x .75" l, 1.00 pounds

• Binding: Plastic Comb

• 312 pages

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#### Review

"This new edition makes a classic text even better. Gauldin's text is exceptional in the way that it immediately gets students writing. I am amazed at how quickly and naturally students with no prior compositional experience get past the fear of composing. Gauldin makes sixteenth-century counterpoint approachable and, most importantly, musical." --Richard Pellegrin, University of Missouri

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