

Intro to Exercise #4

25 Exercises for Better Phrasing

Introduction to Exercise 4, so in fact this is also, um, the same exercise as exercise 2 but we're taking it in melodic minor. You will notice how exactly the same fingerings are used on subsequent octaves, so you start with your C melodic minor here, go here, then you slide your index and you're starting over.

So, if you practice this one diligently from both a 5th string and 6th string root (so C major, G major), you will have the tools to play the melodic minor scale in any of the 12 keys using only 2 fingerings, same as we did in exercise 2 - I told you, "Well, look now, you're empowered to do this."

Once again, you don't need positions if you don't want to for this type of playing. So, to use a strange saying I like to tell my students: scale positions allow you to play all the fingerings in one key, while diagonal fingerings allow you to play one fingering in all of the keys. Kind of strange, so practice this one, reach your target tempo, make sure you do the one, two, and three, and get used to it, to your target tempo before moving on. Have fun.