

Notes

What do I need to practise?

Do I solo and when?

How will the piece be performed?

What are some suggestions your teacher gave to help your music making?

How do the performers in the recordings make a simple song cool?

Work Song

Drum



What's a Chain Gang?

This song is all about injustice. Before the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, African-Americans were routinely mistreated. Punishments usually were much more severe than what fit the crime – which was often committed out of desperation (e.g. attempting to put food on the table). Try to put yourself in the shoes of the person in the song: do you think he/she is being treated fairly? (By the way, is the person in the song a man or a woman?) One more question: what's a chain gang?

Suggested Listening

Work Song

Nat Adderley: *Work Song*

The Animals: *Animalism and Bonus Hits*

Nina Simone: *Ultimate Blues*

Drums

Funk Drum Fills

Drum Set

Score

Funk Pattern

Drum Set

Drum Set Stack

Work Song

Adderley
Carson

Break in' rocks out here on the chain gang Break-in' rocks and serv-in' my time
I com-mi-ted crime lord I need-ed Crime of be-ing hung-gry and poor
Heard the judge say five long years On the chain-gang you gon-na go
Gon-na see my sweet hon-ey ba-by Gon-na break this chain off to run

Break-in' rocks out here on the chain gang 'Cause they done con-vic-
I left the groc-ery store man bleed-ing When they caught me rob-
Heard the judge say five years la-bor Heard my old man scream
Gon-na lay down some where sha-dy Lord I sure am hot

- ted me of crime Hold it steady right there while I hit it Well reck-on that
- bing his store
"lor-dy no"
in the sun