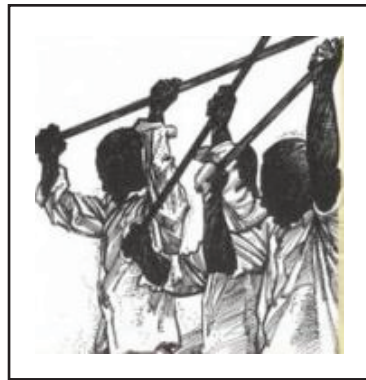


Musical score for 'Work Song' in 4/4 time, key of C minor. The score includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts at measure 24 with the lyrics: 'got so terr - ib - ly far to go'. The piano accompaniment features a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes and a treble line with sustained chords.

## Work Song: Piano

### 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

Nat Adderley: *Work Song*; The Animals: *Animalism & Bonus Hits*; Nina Simone: *Ultimate Blues*

### 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 Improvisation Scales

Piano

Improvisation scales for 'Work Song' in 4/4 time, key of C minor. The scales are presented in piano format:

- C Blues Scale - Cm7**: C-Bb-A-G-F-Eb-D-C
- C Dorian Scale - Cm7**: C-Bb-A-G-F-Eb-D-C
- G Mixolydian - G7**: G-A-B-A-G-F-E-D-G
- F Mixolydian - F7**: F-G-A-G-F-E-D-F

## Work Song Chords

Piano

Chords for 'Work Song' in 4/4 time, key of C minor. The chords are presented in piano format:

- Cm7**: C-Bb-Eb-F
- G7**: G-A-B-Bb-D
- F7**: F-G-A-Bb-C
- Dm7**: D-Eb-F-G

Musical notation for the chords in 'Work Song' in 4/4 time, key of C minor. The notation shows the chords in both treble and bass clefs.

# Work Song

Adderley  
Carson

Solo

Piano

Break in' rocks out here on the chain gang  
I com - mi - ted crime lord I need - ed  
Heard the judge say five long - years  
Gon - na see my sweet hon - ey ba - by

7

Break - in' rocks and sev - in' my time Break - in' rocks out here on the chain gang 'Cause they done con - vic -  
Crime of be - ing hung - gry and poor I left the gro - c - ery store man bleed - ing When they caught me rob -  
On the chain - gang you gon - na go Heard the judge say five years la - bor Heard my old man scream  
Gon - na break this chain off to run Gon - na lay down some where sha - dy Lord I sure am hot

12

- ted me of crime Hold it steady right there while I hit it Well reck-on that ought to get it Been work-in' and  
- bing his store  
"lor - dy no"  
in the sun

18

2.

C m6

work-in' But I still got so terr-ib-ly far to go go been work-in' and work-in' But I still