

Raidas (1986-1988 disbanded)

What is the background of the band?



- ✧ Raidas were formed in 1986 with members 黃耀光 and 陳德彰
- ✧ They won the first runner-up in in ABU'86(亞太流行歌曲創作大賽香港區決賽)
- ✧ Their award-winning song 《吸煙的女人》 had become very popular
- ✧ 黃耀光 was responsible for composing and arranging, 陳德彰 served as singer
- ✧ 林夕 wrote lyrics for most of their songs
- ✧ Raidas were influenced by British electronic music, the melodies were full of syncopated rhythms

《傳說》 1987

- ✧ **Music:** 黃耀光 **Lyrics:** 林夕
- ✧ **Key:** F# natural minor(Aeolian mode)
- ✧ **Complicated structure:**
Intro ⇒ A1 ⇒ B1 ⇒ Instrumental1 ⇒ A2 ⇒ B2 ⇒ Instrumental2 ⇒ B1 ⇒ C ⇒ instrumental3 ⇒ B1 ⇒ B2 ⇒ C ⇒ C
- ✧ **Special effects:** digital effects such as delay and auto arpeggiator are used

Digital delay effect was added to this phrase	
Auto arpeggiator was added above this bass line	

- ✧ **Instrumentation:** Synthesizer is used to imitate most of the Western and Chinese instruments, including *suona*, drum set, Chinese percussion and bass

Suona solo	
Bass line	

- ✧ **Rhythm Utilisation:** Syncopations are used in Section A, then followed by off-beat antiphonies in Section B, regular rhythms are used in Section C

Section A	 俗 世 的 愛 侶 誰 可 永 相 戀 — 談 情 遊 戲 — 我 早 厭 倦 —
Section B	 我 要 是 變 心 有 誰 為 我 盡 情 罵  小 玉 典 珠 釵 祝 君 把 新 歡  鉛 華 求 長 埋 乘 龍 投 豪 門
Section C	 重 合 劍 釵 修 補 破 鏡 只 有 寄 情 戲 曲 與 文 字

Relationship between music and words

- ✧ Lyrics are related to the stories of Cantonese opera including 紫釵記、帝女花、梁山伯與祝英台 and therefore lots of Chinese instruments are imitated with the use of synthesizer.
- ✧ The lyricist pointed out that there is no true love today “盟誓永守、地老天荒、以身盼待早已變成絕世傳奇事” and thus the song is titled as “Legend”.

Eason Chan 陳奕迅 (1974 -)

What is his background?

- ✧ Eason Chan Yick-shun is a Hong Kong Cantopop singer and actor
- ✧ He is regarded as the millennium's most successful singer in Hong Kong, and has won numerous awards in a number of awards ceremonies
- ✧ He is known as the God of Songs after Jacky Cheung 張學友

《六月飛霜》 2011

- ✧ **Music** : 舒文 **Lyrics** : 林夕
- ✧ **Key**: using B major and B minor at the same time, with both third and flattened thirds, with flatten sevenths
- ✧ **Structure**: Intro ⇒ A1 ⇒ A2 ⇒ B ⇒ Instrumentation ⇒ A3 ⇒ B ⇒ Bridge ⇒ B ⇒ Outro
with Section A in 3/4, Section B in 4/4, Bridge in 3/4
- ✧ **Harmony**: A 4-bar chord progression(B-D-E-G) is used throughout the whole song
- ✧ **Arrangement**:

Intro	Timpani roll, then followed by 4 cycles of the B-D-E-G chord progression Piano and acoustic guitar in broken chords(arpeggio)	In country or folk style
Section A	Mainly B-D-E-G chord progression Piano and acoustic guitar	
Section B	Start with B-D-E-G chord progression Powerful drum fill in, electric guitar power chords, rock bass, hi-string counter melody	In rock style

- ✧ **Rhythm Utilisation**: regular rhythm in section A, syncopated in section B, successive quavers in bridge

Section A	
	
Section B	
Bridge	

Relationship between music and words

- ✧ “Snow in June” is the story about Dou Eh (竇娥冤), who was executed for crimes she did not commit. It implies the cry of injustice in the real world. This is a metaphor for the world is getting ill, the right and wrong become confused.
- ✧ In Sections A1 and A2, the lyrics are about property market and poisoned food respectively, it is interpreted by a moaning voice accompanied by light piano and guitar figures.
- ✧ In Section B the singing voice gradually becomes more vigorous.
- ✧ Section A3 reveals environmental problem.
- ✧ In Outro, the lyrics mention three paradox, the music retards, decresends and comes to the end.

Beyond (1983-2004 disbanded)

What is the background of the band?



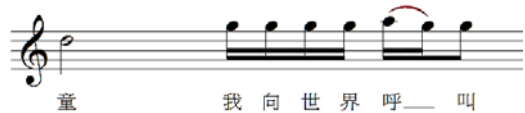
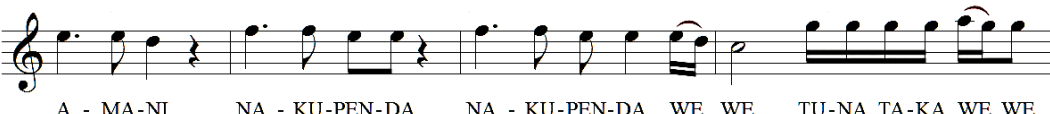
- ✧ Beyond was formed in 1983. The band was considered as one of the most successful and influential Cantopop bands from Hong Kong.
- ✧ In 1993, the leader Wong Ka Kui 黃家駒, died at the age of 31 in an accident in Tokyo. The other three members continued to perform and record after his death.
- ✧ In 2005, Paul Wong 黃貫中, Wong Ka Keung 黃家強 and Yip Sai Wing 葉世榮 decided to pursue their own careers.

♪ 《Amani》 1991

- ✧ **Music** : 黃家駒 **Lyrics** : 黃家駒
- ✧ **Key**: C key
- ✧ **Structure**:
Intro⇒A⇒A⇒Pre-chorus⇒B⇒Interlude⇒A⇒A⇒Pre-chorus⇒B⇒Guitar solo⇒Pre-chorus⇒B⇒B⇒B⇒Fade out
- ✧ **Harmony**: Simple chord progression, one chord per bar in section A and pre-chorus, two chords per bar in section B
- ✧ **Arrangement**:

Intro	Acoustic guitar in broken chords, African drumming, Children chorus singing "Amani...", which is the hook of the song	In folk, world music style
Section A	4-bar chord progression: C-G-Am-G Mainly acoustic guitar and African drumming, similar to introduction	
Pre-chorus	The same 4-bar chord progression C-G-Am-G, drums and guitar fill-in in the 4 th bar	A mixture of folk style and rock style
Section B	Power chord with E guitar, Powerful drum 4-bar chord progression(two chords per bar): C-G-F-C-F-G-C-G	In hard rock style

✧ **Melody**:

Section A	<p>Mainly imitations</p>  <p>祂 主 宰 世 上 一 切 祂 的 歌 唱 出 愛 祂 的 真 理 遍 佈 這 地 球</p>
Pre-chorus	<p>Another set of imitations</p>  <p>無 助 與 冰 凍 的 眼 睛 流 淚 看 天 際 帶 悲 憤</p> <p>An hysterical crying at the end of pre-chorus, with the accompany of guitar and drums</p>  <p>童 我 向 世 界 呼 叫</p>
Section B	<p>The hook returns in the chorus</p>  <p>A - MA - NI NA - KU - PEN - DA NA - KU - PEN - DA WE WE TU - NA TA - KA WE WE</p>

Relationship between music and words

- ✧ This is an anti-war rock song, composed after the Persian Gulf War.
- ✧ Beyond loves peace and they encourages people to stop the war and strive for peace with their music.
- ✧ The Cantonese lyrics are written by 黃家駒.
- ✧ At the beginning and the end of the song, children chorus was used to emphasise the lyrics that children are the main victims of war"(是控訴戰爭到最後傷痛是兒童).
- ✧ To respond to the lyric "I cry to the world"(我向世界呼叫) before chorus, the chorus sings in Kiswahili(one of the commonly used African languages). Amani = Peace, Nakupenda = Love, Nakupenda We We = We love you, Tuna Taka We We = We need you.

Further Information on Popular Music

Elvis Presley (1935-1977)

- ✧ The blend came to be known as rockabilly. The term "rockabilly" itself is a portmanteau of "rock" (from "rock 'n' roll") and "hillbilly". At the time, Presley was variously billed as "The King of Western Bop", "The Hillbilly Cat", and "The Memphis Flash".
- ✧ Elvis was everything forbidden: he came from a poor southern family, spoke 'hillbilly' English, and disrupted every audience he played and sang for.
- ✧ Energised interpretations of songs and sexually provocative performance style, combined with a singularly potent mix of influences across colour lines. – Wikipedia
- ✧ John Lennon: "Before Elvis there was nothing."
- ✧ His powerful stage presence challenged the values of many conservative Americans, who perceived his glamorous bad-boy appeal as 'dangerous'.
- ✧ As a performer Elvis was most innovative at the beginning (between 1954-1958) and toward the end (1967-1972) of his career.

Heartbreak Hotel (1956)

- ✧ Presley's first million-seller and one of the best-selling singles of 1956.
- ✧ **Harmony:** An 8-bar blues 3-chord song. It comprises an eight-bar blues progression:

E7	E7	E7	E7	
A7	A7	B7	E7	
- ✧ Flattened 7ths and 3rds except when the word "lonely" is repeated and a normal G# is used.
- ✧ **Melody** is based on blues pentatonic scale.
- ✧ **Structure:** Stop time accents in verse. The verses are an octave higher than the chorus. Four verses are broken with a guitar solo.
- ✧ **Instrumentation:** High guitar/snare on stop accents
- ✧ Only voice and double bass on first chorus
- ✧ Brush drums & guitar counter riff on second chorus
- ✧ Blues piano trills added on third chorus.
- ✧ Guitar plays Elmore James style solo riff at 12th fret.
- ✧ Piano adds walking bass beneath guitar solo and takes over solo with blue note trills in high octave.
- ✧ Triplet accent at the end of last verse.
- ✧ Bass descent outro followed by guitar: F9th/ E9th

Love Me Tender (1956)

- ✧ The song was adapted from the tune of a 1861 civil war song "Aura Lee" (or "Aura Lea"), a sentimental Civil War ballad.
- ✧ **Harmony:** use of secondary dominants
- ✧ **Tempo:** largo, ballad style
- ✧ **Instrumentation:** acoustic guitar as it is the only instrument that is played.
- ✧ The music review that the song gives is very emotional, soothing and relaxing.

Verse 1

D (I) E7 (V7/V) A7 (V7) D (I)
 Love me tender, love me sweet, Never let me go.

D (I) E7 (V7/V) A7 (V7) D (I)
 You have made my life complete, And I love you so.

Chorus

D (I) F#7 (V7/vi) Bm (vi) D7 (V7/IV) G (IV) Gm (iv) D (I)
 Love me tender, love me true, All my dreams fulfilled

D (I) B7 (II7/V) E7(V7/V) A7 (V) D (I)
 For my darling I love you, And I always will.

The Beatles (1962 1st recording -1970 disbanded)

What are their musical styles in late 1960s?

♪ *Nowhere Man* 1966

He's a real nowhere man

Sitting in his nowhere land

Making all his nowhere plans for nobody

“**Nowhere Man**”, entirely unrelated to romance or love, trait of John Lennon’s philosophically oriented songwriting.

- ✧ **Harmony:** Lennon, McCartney, and George Harrison sing the song in three-part harmony at the beginning
- ✧ A descending scale of 5-4-3-2-1 on the melody of the first phrase
- ✧ Begins with E (I) chord on “He’s a real”, then B (V) chord on “nowhere man”, A (IV) chord on “sitting in”; but with a twist of Am (iv) replaces A on “nowhere plans” with a note G# on “no” that creates a dissonant Am/mai 7.

The image shows a musical score for the song "Nowhere Man" in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "He's a real no- where man Si-tting in the no where and Ma-king all_ the no where plans for no -bo- dy." Chords are indicated above the staff: E, B, A, E, F#m, Am, E. The melody starts with a descending scale of G4-A4-B4-A4-G4-F#4-E4-D4-C4-B3-A3-G3. The Am chord is circled in red, and the F#m chord is also circled in red. The lyrics "no" and "no" are underlined.

- ✧ The chorus shifts between G#m (iii) and A (IV) before leading back to the verse with F#m (ii) and B7 (V)

Psychedelic Rock

- ✧ Lennon described the LSD experience: "It was just terrifying, but it was fantastic."

♪ *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds* 1967

- ✧ *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds* (LSD)
- ✧ Written primarily by John Lennon.
- ✧ **Instrumentation:** George Harrison – lead electric guitar put through a Leslie speaker and tamboura. It is an Indian instrument similar to a sitar that makes a droning noise. He had been studying with Indian musician Ravi Shankar; Paul McCartney plays a counter melody on Lowery organ.
- ✧ **Special Effects:** The use of studio recording techniques, especially the heavy reverb and double tracking applied to Lennon’s vocal solo, creates a wavy, heard-through-water vocal
- ✧ An effect that suggests the unreality
- ✧ **Rhythm Utilisation:** verses in simple triple meter (3/4), chorus in simple quadruple time (4/4)
- ✧ The heavy drum beats that establish the rhythm of the song’s refrain
- ✧ **Harmony:** It is A major for verses, Bb major for the pre-chorus and G major for the chorus

Why did they break up?

- ✧ In late 1968, tensions were further aggravated by Lennon's romantic preoccupation with avant-garde artist Yoko Ono, whom he insisted on bringing to the sessions despite the group's well-established understanding that girlfriends were not allowed in the studio.

♪ *Let It Be* 1970

- ✧ Written and sung by Paul McCartney. I
- ✧ **Instrumentation:** The piano intro, each phrase in the verse and chorus, the bridge is played by organ, and outro are all ended in plagal cadence (F – C).
- ✧ **Harmony:** Recurring chord progressions (ostinatos) in:
Verse: | C G | Am Fmaj7 | C G | F C |
Chorus: | Am G | F C | C G | F C |

What are their musical influences?

- ✧ Sound of Silence – Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel, Oct 1964 & 1966, the album “Wednesday Morning” was initially not successful, having been released in the shadow of the Beatles’ arrival in the USA.
- ✧ The Album was re-released in 1966 with a re-mixed electric/acoustic version on the song “Sound of Silence”.
- ✧ Lennon was shot and killed in December 1980, and Harrison died of lung cancer in November 2001.

♪ 《楚留香》 1979

- ✧ **Structure:** Intro ⇒ A ⇒ A ⇒ B ⇒ Bridge ⇒ A ⇒ B ⇒ Outro
- ✧ **Instrumentation:** Female 'ah' used in intro, bridge and coda
- ✧ **Crossover:** the use of Western and Chinese instruments: horn, oboe, erhu, zheng, pipa
- ✧ **Melody Writing:** G octave leap in the beginning of intro for female 'ah'
- ✧ Melody mainly lies on high tessitura with occasional low notes to represent the characteristics of freedom, carefree and charisma of the main character
- ✧ The melisma on D and C# on the word '去' matches with the Cantonese pronunciation of this word
- ✧ **Rhythm Utilisation:** Rhythmic ostinato played by bass drum and timpani
- ✧ Contrast in the use of rhythms between Sections A & B, phrases mainly begin on downbeat in Section A and off beat in Section B, and use of triplet in Section B

♪ 《今晚夜》 1982

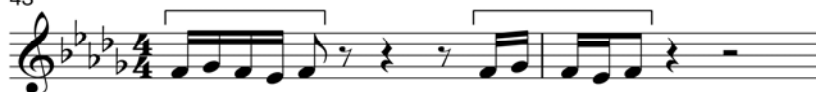
- ✧ A light-hearted, glamorous and colourful song depicts the happy and enjoyable life style, night life, dancing and drinking, reflects the prosperity in the 1980s in HK
- ✧ **Structure:** Intro ⇒ A ⇒ A ⇒ B ⇒ A ⇒ Bridge ⇒ A ⇒ A ⇒ B ⇒ A ⇒ Outro
- ✧ Intro with an ad lib "la" section by the singer with free tempo
- ✧ **Harmony:** B minor in Section A and D major in Section B
- ✧ **Instrumentation:** Use of percussions such as guiro and maracas to depict the happy mood of Latin American music
- ✧ **Instrumentation:** Saxophone plays syncopations after the Intro

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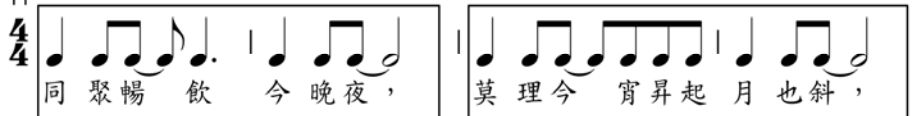
- ✧ **Rhythm Utilisation:** Semiquavers are played by strings on downbeats or upbeats

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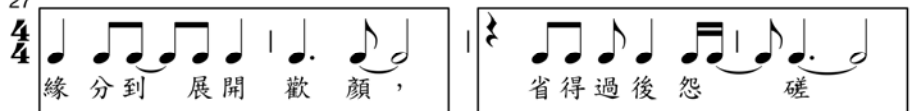


- ✧ **Rhythm Utilisation:** Recurrent use of syncopations with some variations on rhythms with occasional crochet rest on the first beat

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- ✧ **Compositional Device:** A sudden pause of two beats to create tension and expectation at the end of the song

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Sam Hui (1948 -) 許冠傑

♪ 《鬼馬雙星》1974

- ✧ Innovative musical styles that integrated with Western music styles and instrumentation
- ✧ Written in colloquial
- ✧ Moderato with R 'n' R style, rhythmical
- ✧ **Instrumentation:** Electric guitar solo with fuzz effect
- ✧ Cowbell on regular crochet beats
- ✧ **Structure:** AABA structure (with repeat)
- ✧ **Special recording effect:** Double tracking in Section B
- ✧ **Harmony:** Mainly pentatonic with occasional *fa*
- ✧ The melody ended on dominant, not on tonic, with a speaking falsetto ending

♪ 《半斤八兩》1976

- ✧ **Structure:** Intro ⇒ A ⇒ A ⇒ B ⇒ A ⇒ Bridge ⇒ B ⇒ A ⇒ Outro
- ✧ **Harmony:** E minor and G major
- ✧ Only three notes are used in Section B (sol, lah, mi)
- ✧ **Rhythm utilisation:** Clapping on backbeats
- ✧ Call and response
- ✧ **Special effects:** Human sound on the first beat in every two bars
- ✧ Dog barks
- ✧ **Instrumentation:** Electric guitar solo as bridge for 8 bars
- ✧ The **riff** as intro and coda
- ✧ Written in colloquial

♪ 《加價熱潮》1979 (A Cover version of Rock Around the Clock by Bill Haley)

- ✧ **Rhythm utilisation:** Clapping on backbeats
- ✧ Walking bass
- ✧ **Instrumentation:** Electric guitar solo as bridge for 8 bars
- ✧ **Structure:** twelve-bar blues:

	I7		I7		I7		I7	
	IV7		IV7		I7		I7	
	V7		V7		I7		I7	

Glossary of Terms in Popular Music

Melody	Riff, lick, pitch bend, melisma, syllabic, hook, slide, glissando, ostinato, blue notes, angular
Harmony	Power chords, sus4 chords, chord extensions – secondary 7 th , 9 th , 11 th , 13 th , half diminished 7 th , added 6 th , dominant pedals, turn-around, chord symbols, e.g. C/E, C7, Cø and C+
Tonality	Major and minor keys; modes, e.g. dorian, lydian, pentatonic, blues scale
Structure	Intro, Outro, Middle 8, Bridge, Verse, Chorus, Instrumental, Break, Drum fill, Fade in, Fade out
Timbre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Studio/technological effects, e.g. reverb, panning ✧ Standard contemporary instrumental types, e.g. electric guitar, synthesisers ✧ Drum kit, e.g. rim shot ✧ Vocal timbres, e.g. falsetto, belt, rap ✧ Specific instrumental effects, e.g. distortion ✧ Specific instrumental techniques, e.g. slap bass
Texture	Looping, layering, cluster, polarised texture, drone
Tempo, metre and rhythm	bpm (beats per minute), mm (metronome marking), groove, backbeat, irregular metre

Further Readings

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- 劉影，范文娟，李雪梅，麥小梅編著。《英文歌曲與文化研究》。西安：西安交通大學出版社，2008。
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