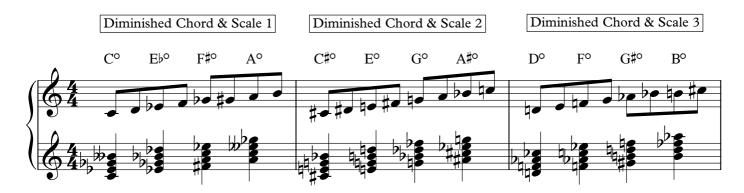
Diminished Chords

Gé Bijvoet



The diminished scale consists of 8 notes we call it Octatonic (8 Greek) or Octotonic (8 Italian)

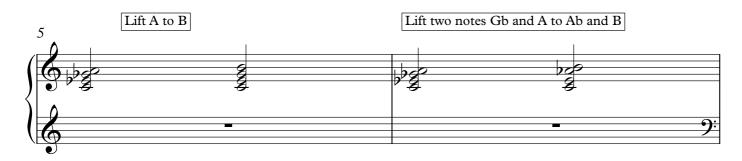
Diminished (Dim) chords a row of minor thirds 1 b3 b5 bb7

The Scale 1 1/2 1 1/2 1 1/2

The dim scale consist of 2 dim chords Co and as a sort op upper struckture Do



To enrich the chord we can play every single note a major second higher



We can place the 2e dim chord a whole note higher as an uperstucture on top, we play the complete scale in two hands now, the max dim chord

2

But beter to spread/mix the ingrediens,
The next step is transposing the chords minor
thirds. All chords are Co all the chords are Ebo,
Gbo and Ao



We see diminished chords replacing dominant 7 chords with a b9

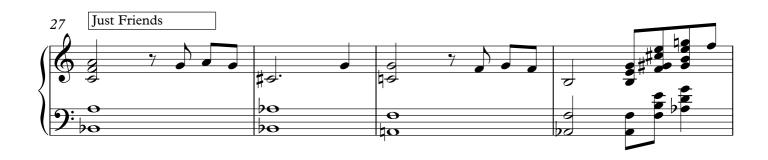


We can use the same diminished scale within b9 chords. B9 makes a chord more minor and use in V7(b9) to Im7 so V in minor From the root to b9 (a half step) 1/2 1 1/2 1



Bye Bye Blackbird





There is a similarity between dim, b9 and #9 chords, the scale and voicings of the left hand. A7 = C7 = Eb7 = Gb7



Because there is some consistency in the moving minor 3 you can experiment with melodies shifting minor thirds with and without the chord.

Check the George Cables recording 'Old Wine New Bottles' for a lot of examples

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Go to www.pianotunes.eu for the video tutorial and a lot of other information about palying piano, Jazz and improvisation