

# Bitonality/ Polytonal

The use of two (**bitonality**) or more keys (**polytonality**) played or sung at the same time, e.g. the melody might be in the key of C major whilst the accompaniment might be in E major. This device was used by many 20th-century composers.

e.g. Stravinsky's ballet *Petrushka*, where the 1<sup>st</sup> clarinet plays a melody in the key of C major while the 2nd clarinet plays nearly the same melody in the key of F# major.

34

49  
Molto meno. = 50.

CL. I (Sib.)

CL. II (A)

Fag. I. II.

Tr. I.

V. I.

*mf lamentoso*

*SOLO*

*mf* *lamentoso assai*  
sord.

*pizz.*

*pizz.*

This is heard at 0:26



e.g. Milhaud – ‘Copacabana’ – [play from 0:55](#)

Watch an overview of polytonality