

# HINTS & TIPS

## Breakaway

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**Kelly Clarkson**'s breakthrough happened when she appeared on the first airing of the US TV talent show *American Idol* – she went on to become the winner of that season in 2002. 'Breakaway' is the lead song from Clarkson's second album, originally intended for singer Avril Lavigne's debut album. However, it was later passed to Clarkson, who recorded it for the Disney film *The Princess Diaries 2: A Royal Engagement*, becoming a huge hit.

- The backing vocals come in at bar 13, so make sure you're totally in tune with each other. From bar 29 in the chorus (and again at bar 53) there's a question-and-answer section between your vocal and the backing vocalist. Make sure you keep these phrases short and concise so that this feature is effective.
- The J. in the song (e.g. bars 12, 13, 20, 22) need to be held for their full length: make sure you have enough breath to stay strong through these phrases.
- Be sure that you're totally on pitch for the first note of the chorus. The previous note is a B below middle C, so it's just over an octave leap up to the first C of the chorus. It's marked *forte* in the score and is the strongest part of the song, so make sure you're confident with your pitching and sing out.

## Footprints In The Sand

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**Leona Lewis** was the winner of the third series of musical talent show *The X Factor*. She has since become a global vocal superstar, selling 8 million copies of her debut album *Spirit*, from which this song comes. The song was written in one day and was based around the popular Christian poem 'Footprints'.

- You don't get much help in pitching the last two beats of bar 13 from the accompaniment or backing track so make sure you're confident here, as this is the lead in to the chorus.
- There are three small vocal *ad lib* phrases at bars 24, 25 and 28. You can either use the notation here or make up your own phrases in keeping with the soul/power-ballad style of the song.
- Listening to the drum lead in to the chorus key change at bar 26 will help you get the first note right on the beat.
- There are two 'blue' notes in the Outro chorus – the D naturals in bars 29 and 30. You will clash with the backing track a little here but it's worth it if you pitch them right!

## Jar Of Hearts

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This song by **Christina Perri** is a massive worldwide hit, making the top 10 in 12 countries. The popularity of the song greatly increased when it was performed on the hit TV show *Glee*.

- The beginning of this song is quite low for a female vocalist, but is also quite quiet, so you don't have to strain. Being this low at the start certainly helps with the build up of the song.
- The middle section needs to be sung lightly, and you need to fit alongside the accompaniment, so sing quietly, gently and with a light touch. Don't forget the *crescendo* from bar 26 and come in strongly at bar 30.

## Lego House

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UK singer-songwriter **Ed Sheeran** rose to fame through incessantly gigging: in 2009 he played an impressive 312 gigs! One year later he flew over to Los Angeles and played at open mic nights all over the city. 'Lego House' is Sheeran's third single and features a video starring the Harry Potter actor Rupert Grint.

- Ed Sheeran is able to sing in quite a fast and percussive manner, so it can feel difficult to get your mouth around the words in this song. You may need to practise the pre-chorus section, just speaking rather than singing, so you learn how the words fit.
- Some of the rhythms are tricky in the second verse: listening to the backing vocals here will help you understand the rhythm and keep you in time with the track.
- Listen to the backing track carefully for the *rit.* at the end of the song, so you can hear how much to slow down.

## Lost And Found

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Before gaining success as a solo artist, **Lianne La Havas** was a backing singer for Paloma Faith, amongst others. This ballad from her acclaimed debut album is about her first experience of heartbreak. La Havas says she uses music to make sense of her relationships: "Singing your own words, in a way that means something to you, it feels right, amazing, that's why you do it."

- This song suits a more relaxed style of singing, so you can pull the rhythm around a little in the verses and add soul/R'n'B grace notes if you like.
- You will need accurate pitching in the chorus (the top Cs must be strong and in tune) and controlled phrasing in this section generally.



# LOST & FOUND

Words and Music by Lianne Barnes and Matthew Hales

♩ = 72 **Soul Ballad**

### Intro

N.C.

Ped. \_\_\_\_\_

5 **Gm7(add4)/Bb**

**Fmaj7/A**

9 **Csus4**

**Dm9**

### Verse I

13 **Gm7(add4)/Bb**

**p**

**Fmaj7/A**

\_\_\_\_\_ Ped. cont. sim.

Demo 19  
BT 20

# WE ARE YOUNG

Words and Music by Nathaniel Joseph Ruess, Jeffrey Bhasker,  
Andrew Dost and Jack Michael Antonoff

♩ = 116 Pop 2 bars count-in

**Intro**

N.C.

**Verse I**

*mf*

F  
vocals sung octave lower throughout

With pedal

4 Dm<sup>7</sup>

Gm

7

B<sup>b</sup>

C