

# LEARN & UNDERSTAND...

- THE CYCLE OF 5<sup>THS</sup> WILL GUIDE US AS WE LEARN 3 SCALES AND THE HARMONIES (THE TRIADS AND CHORDS) THAT COME FROM THESE 3 SCALES
- THE CYCLE (OR CIRCLE) OF 5<sup>THS</sup> MOVES IN A CLOCKWISE DIRECTION
- THE CYCLE OF 5<sup>THS</sup> CONTAINS ALL 12 DIFFERENT TONES FOUND IN WESTERN MUSIC - ON THE KEYBOARD, THE 7 WHITE KEYS & 5 BLACK KEYS
- EACH LETTER REPRESENTS A STARTING POINT AND ENDING POINT FOR A MAJOR SCALE, NATURAL MINOR SCALE AND MIXOLYDIAN SCALE
- THESE 3 SCALES EACH HAVE 7 DIFFERENT NOTES - IT'S COMMON TO END EACH SCALE ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> NOTE, WHICH IS THE SAME AS THE 1<sup>ST</sup> NOTE
- THE LETTER BEFORE ANY LETTER IS THE 5<sup>TH</sup> NOTE OF THAT SCALE (LETTER BEFORE = MOVE ONE LETTER IN A COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION)
- GENERAL RULE ABOUT NAMING BLACK KEYS: BLACK KEYS IN SCALES ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE CYCLE OF 5<sup>THS</sup> ARE NAMED USING FLATS  
BLACK KEYS IN SCALES ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE CYCLE OF 5<sup>THS</sup> ARE NAMED USING SHARPS
- HAND POSTURE: HANDS HIGH, FINGERS CURVED & ALWAYS IN CONTACT WITH THE KEYS