HARMONIZING A MELODY WITH MODERN CHORDS

Melody

1. Choose bass notes that will function as the roots of the chords that support some of the melody notes. Don't limit yourself to consonant intervals. Play the 2 note combinations, listen to the sound and choose the ones that **you** like.

Here's an example of 2 note combinations that I like.

2. Then add a middle voices. To achieve a modern sound I avoid quite often tertian harmony favouring less conventional intervallic structures.

In both chords of bar 1 I use the 1#5 b7 structure (A F G) and 1 3 b5 (F A B).

In bar 2 I use 1 b7 b9 (C# B D) and 1 3 6 (Bb D G). In bar 3 I use 1 b6 b9 (G# E A) and 1 7 9 (F# F G#) and in bar 5, I use 1 b3 #5 (C Eb Ab)

Notice I use quite often a mix of open strings and fretted notes.

In this example I created more bass voice leading

In this example there is more voice leading in the middle voices