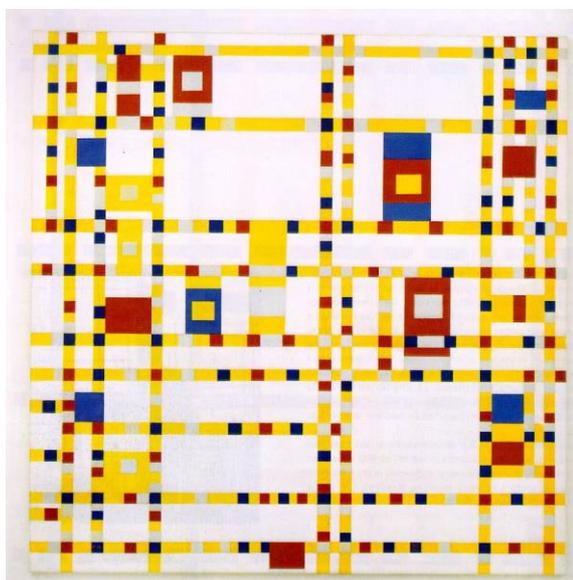


## Lesson 3: Resource

### Development Class Session 3: Listening

#### **Piet Mondrian's – Broadway Boogie-Woogie**

Mondrian escaped to New York from Europe after the outbreak of World War II, and loved the city's architecture. He was also fascinated by American jazz, particularly boogie-woogie, finding its syncopated beat, quirky melodies and improvisational approach akin to his own work's "destruction of natural appearance; and construction through continuous opposition of pure means—dynamic rhythm." Here, Mondrian uses mostly yellow lines that intersect at points marked by squares of blue and red. The canvas suggests the New York's grid system, traffic (yellow cabs!), and blinking electric lights, as well as the rhythms of jazz.



- **Listen to: Tommy Dorsey's *Pine-Top Boogie Woogie***

Musical pointers:

- The coloured squares might make you think of chromatic notes 'interrupting' the flow
- Or they might make you think of syncopated rhythms
- The larger squares might be reminiscent of the loud punchy brass stabs
- The three different interrupting colours might suggest the three chords found in 12-bar blues

## Jean-Michel Basquiat – Notary/Horn Players

Basquiat loved jazz and hip-hop. In 'Notary', he repeats, combines and overlaps different lines, colours, images and words, creating a fast tempo and an urban rhythm that conveys a sense of improvisation. In music, syncopation is something that interrupts the usual straight rhythm/beat – an unexpected accent. Basquiat has unexpected *visual* accents – elements that interrupt the flow.

Musical pointers:

- Different genres –jazz and hip hop (perfectly possible for the groups to incorporate)
- Constant rhythm section with melodic improvisation over the top
- Loose rapping vocals



- Listen to Guru's (mix of jazz and hip hop) *Feel The Music*

In another work, a triptych called 'Horn Players', Basquiat was directly inspired by Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker.



- Listen to Charlie Parker's *Ornithology*