

"Etude Blue"

(jazz improv)

This improvisation is based on an old jazz standard. A typical jazz waltz rhythm will be suitable. Fingering has been marked throughout the piece but notice that it does not remain in 2nd position all of the time. The chord structure ranges far afield of the original key so the melodic improv is similarly a bit off the wall. Feel free to experiment with slurs and different picking formulas. When you improvise, those techniques will have to also be determined "on the fly."

Jazz Waltz

Chords and Fingerings:

- Staff 1: D (1, 3), C#m7b5 (2, 1, 2), F#7
- Staff 2: Bm7 (3, 2, 1), E7 momentary 1st pos. (4, 2, 1, 4), Am7 (1, 4), D7 (4, 3, 4, 1, 3)
- Staff 3: G (2, 3), G (4), Gm7 (4, 1, 4), C7 (1, 3, 4)
- Staff 4: F (1st pos., 2, 1, 4, 3, 2, 1), Fm7 (3, 1, 4, 3, 1), Bb7 (3, 2)
- Staff 5: Eb (2, 2, 1), Em7b5 (3, 3, 1), A7 (1, 1, 4, 2, 0)
- Staff 6: F#m7 (1, 4, 1, 1, 4), F7 (1, 4, 1, 2), Em7 (0, 2, 3, 2), A7 (4, 4, 1, 1, 4, 1, 3)
- Staff 7: F#m7 (1, 4, 3, 1), B7 (1, 4, 3, 1, 4), B7+5 (1, 4, 3, 1)
- Staff 8: Em7 (4, 2, 1, 3), A7 (1, 4, 3, 2, 0, 2, 1, 0, 1, 4, 3, 1, 0, 0, 1, 4)
- Staff 9: D (2, 1), A7(#9) (4, 1), F#m7 (1, 3), Em7 (0, 1, 3, 1), Eb (4, 1, 3, 1), D (2, 3, 1, 0)

Without chord accompaniment, this melody will be difficult to understand. It should not be a surprise to students if it takes a fair bit of rehearsal to ready this solo for performance. The fingering moves about and there is some judicious use of open strings.