

Deborah Henson-Conant Improv Workshops

Collect Your Thoughts About Improvising

Who - What - When - Where - How - Why

<p style="text-align: center;">WHO</p> <p>WHO WILL BE PLAYING?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to play this solo • How to play it in a duo • How to break it down for a group 	<p style="text-align: center;">WHAT</p> <p>WHAT WILL YOU BE PLAYING & HOW WILL YOU DISTILL & EXPAND (EMBELLISH) IT?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What’s the sequence/jam/vamp? • What will you do to simplify it? • What will you do to embellish it?
<p style="text-align: center;">WHEN</p> <p>WHEN WILL YOU ADD IMPROVISION?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a standalone free improvisation? • Within a tune (Improv ‘section’) • As an interlude between two tunes? • As an improvised Introduction? • As a Cadenza? • As a way to modulate, connecting two tunes in different keys? 	<p style="text-align: center;">WHERE</p> <p>HOW CAN YOU SHIFT THE BASIC PROGRESSION AROUND?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To the relative minor - or major? • To different keys? • To different MODES? (Does it ‘always’ work, or only sometimes? When does it, when doesn’t it? What can you do to alter it, so it sounds more convincing in Dorian, for example)
<p style="text-align: center;">HOW</p> <p>HOW WILL YOU BE APPROACHING THE RHYTHM & THE FEEL?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Rhythm (responsive / meditative / open / therapeutic) • Waltz • Bossa • Swing (stride) • Samba • Calypso 	<p style="text-align: center;">WHY</p> <p>WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE FOR IMPROVISING?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meditation • To play with others • To combine with story or dance? • To expand my repertoire • To increase creative opportunities when playing • So I know what to do when I don’t know what to do!

**What are all the different kinds of playing you do?
What are the different situations? What are the different kinds of music?**

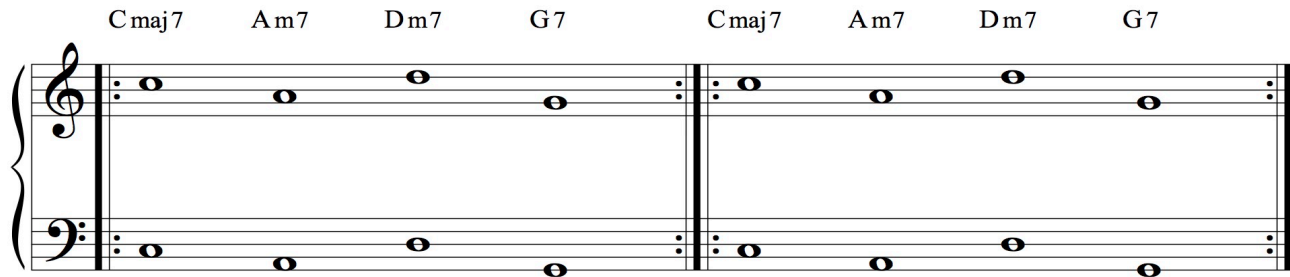
In which situations would you like to EXPAND your repertoire - and why.

In which situations would you like to be more RESPONSIVE? In what ways - and why?

In which situations would you like to be more CREATIVE with what you’re playing & why?

Pick one of these situations to focus on in this playalong webinar.
Keep thinking about it so, at the end of the webinar, you can ask me questions about how we might use what we learned today in that specific situation or with that piece of music.

The 1-6-2-5 Formula



- 1. Add triads above these bass note (i.e. 1-3-5)
- 2. Create 1-5-10 above these bass note
- 3. Write down 5 different ways you can ‘play with’ the right hand notes to start creating improvisations. Fill in two of them above.

4. What else can you do to play *with* this sequence of notes?

5. Where can you ADD it, SWITCH to it, or COMBINE it with the music you’re already playing?

6. What are the 3 roles in music and where do they live on the instrument?

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7. Why are these relevant to improvisation?

One Takeaway to Play with in the 24 Hours

Describe your takeaway, then add why it’s great, what it gives you in terms of artistic expression, personal liberation and creative power and 3 different ways you can apply it in your music (or your life!) right now – without having to get any `better.

The Takeaway
Why it’s great & what it gives me
Where can I use it to <i>expand</i> what I play? 1. 2. 3.

Notes, Ahas & Takeaways

Learn more of these formulas in Summer Harp Jam at HarpJam.com