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INTRODUCTION

Inside Improvisation - Melodic Structures, is the first in a series of books which describe a simple and pragmatic approach to improvisation. While focussing on the jazz idiom, the techniques discussed are applicable to many styles of music and all instruments, be it rock guitar, jazz saxophone, or the solos of the fusion keyboardist. The system presented in this volume offers a tangible pathway to **inside** the creative imagination by getting **inside** harmony, **inside** the changes.

Improvisation is individual expression and only you can play you the best. This particular approach to that creative world is both concise and direct. It is easily accessible to the amateur musician yet it allows for the expanded studies of the more advanced player. While it is one of many systems which can be used to study improvisation, this is a proven method and has been used by many students and professionals.

In this first book the lessons focus on a numerical system which provide the student with an intervallic method for playing on chord changes while examining the similarities and relationships between different chords. It is a system which categorizes various melodic scale segments and describes step by step how to use these melodies in developing your solos. This book is designed so that you as a student have specific assignments to complete at the end of each chapter.

Using The Play Along Recording:

The accompanying recordings have been designed for use in conjunction with each of the chapter assignments. There are nine tunes, each played at a slow and then medium tempo. Piano players can eliminate the piano track by turning the right channel of your amplifier to "0", bass players can turn off the left channel. It is suggested that you practice each assignment with the recording first using the slower tempo and then moving on to the faster tempo once you have gained familiarity with the lesson.

For beginning players, scale and chord charts can be found in the Appendix.