

Index for Rhythm and Changes Lesson

Date: Summer of 1984

Location: Pittsburgh.

Background: Somehow I got word that Emily was in Pittsburgh. I was in Cleveland for the summer between my freshman and sophomore years of college. So I drove 3 hours to see Emily and took a double lesson. I also stuck around for her gig that evening. It was great to spend two hours studying with her and then follow it up with a performance, where I could see her using so many of the concepts she was teaching me in action. The gig was in some bar restaurant and I don't remember many of the details, although I recall a woman friend of hers (Annie?) sitting in on keyboards and singing Summertime.

This is a monster lesson!

This recording covers: All of Me, Rhythm Changes and Rootless chords (major sevenths with no 3rd). It also includes tri-tone chord substitutions, which are a very important part of her understanding of jazz harmony.

Accompanying files: Rhythm-Changes-Chord-Diagrams.pdf, scan in Oleo from Real Book

Intro: Joel and Emily tune up.

1:50 - Joel does intro. Emily plays melody.

3:00 - Emily takes first solo over All of Me.

4:00 - Emily takes second solo

5:00 - Joel takes a solo

9:00 - Rhythm Changes.

11:00 - Emily plays through Rhythm Changes with small chord forms (see accompanying diagram)

13:17 - Emily begins plays rootless versions of Rhythm Changes

20:40 - Emily plays a solo over Rhythm Changes using guide tones

26:50 - Emily introduces the concept of rootless dominants based on tri-tones. A tri-tone is the b5 relationship between the b7th and 3rd of a chord.

37:00 - Emily explains how every dominant chord can function as a second dominant as well, e.g. C7 -> Fmaj7 can be played as Gb7 -> Fmaj7

40:00 - 41:00 interruption - Angie?

44:40 - Emily plays example of ii V I vi (see rootless-chords.pdf)

48:00 - Emily shows how rootless chords can be used in the standard Bb blues that she had taught me in earlier lessons.

53:00 - Emily plays thru Rhythm Changes with rootless chords again.

1:00:00 - Emily gives an example of a comping solo over Rhythm Changes using some of the new chords we've learned.

1:03:20 - Emily plays a line over rhythm changes (Emily recommends the book "Joe Pass Guitar Style" - Orange Book - page 46 - for learning how to play over rhythm changes)

1:06:03 - Emily plays around with a melodic line over rhythm changes that incorporates the guide tones. She later writes this out (Rhythm-Changes.pdf).

1:24:44 - Discussion on using jazz minors to play over the circle of fifths, e.g. the "B" section of Rhythm Section. Emily plays the Jazz Minor scale up a fifth from each dominant

1:28:00 - Emily gives a few examples of playing jazz minors over the B Section.