

Old Folks - Improvised Piano by Doug McKenzie

Ignore the bar lines in the first
and last rubato choruses

Em7b5 A7alt Dm7 Db7

Cm7 F7 BbMaj7 Eb7

Simple arpeggio - leaves out the root (A)

On Gm7/C7 neighbour tones on main chord tones

Am7b5 D7b9 Gm7 C7

On G7 - a moving internal voice 13th (E) b13th(Eb) to 5th (D) for a bluesy touch

Am7b5 D7 G7 C7#11

Hand split (Bass/treble) is fairly accurate

C7#11

Series of minor 11th voicings descending

chromatically to Em7b5

Musical notation for the C7#11 section. It features a treble and bass clef. The treble clef has a melodic line with a sixteenth-note triplet. The bass clef has a bass line with chords. Chord labels above the staff are Gm11, Gb^{m11}, Fm11, Em7b5, and A7alt. A bracket with the number '6' spans the Fm11 and Em7b5 chords.

Series of notes in pairs fingered thumb and index finger to better accent appropriately

Musical notation for the series of notes in pairs. It features a treble and bass clef. The treble clef has a melodic line with eighth-note pairs. The bass clef has a bass line with chords. Chord labels above the staff are Dm7, Db7, Cm7, F7b9, BbMaj7, and Eb7. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in the treble clef.

On Am7b5 - D7alt an easy run Eb(3),G(5),Eb(3),C(2),A(1),Ab(3),G(1),Gb(3),F(2),E(1),Eb(3) etc

Musical notation for the Am7b5 - D7alt run. It features a treble and bass clef. The treble clef has a melodic line with eighth-note runs. The bass clef has a bass line with chords. Chord labels above the staff are D7alt, Gm7, C7, C7, and A7. Triplet markings with the number '8' are present in the treble clef.

Gospelly lick leads to G7

Similar lick leads to C7

Blues scale lick leads to F

Musical notation for the licks. It features a treble and bass clef. The treble clef has a melodic line with eighth-note licks. The bass clef has a bass line with chords. Chord labels above the staff are D7, G7, C7, and C7. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in the treble clef.

A simple Bb Major scale (= Bb mixolydian)

Musical notation for the Bb Major scale. It features a treble and bass clef. The treble clef has a melodic line with eighth-note runs. The bass clef has a bass line with chords. Chord labels above the staff are F, F7, F7sus, and F7sus. A bracket with the number '9' spans the F7 and F7sus chords. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in the treble clef.

These bass notes are played with the Right hand

As before, same 13th (D) / b13th (Db) / 5th (C) internal voice - this time on F7

On Eb7 the half/whole step dimin scale

Notice staccato articulation

Musical notation for the first system, featuring chords **F7**, **BbMaj7**, **Eb7**, and **Eb7**. The notation includes a treble and bass clef with various notes and rests.

Continued staccato - no pedal

Musical notation for the second system, featuring chords **FMaj7**, **A7**, **Dm**, **Dm**, and **D7#9**. The notation includes a treble and bass clef with various notes and rests.

On D7#9 an altered scale (with added Maj 7) -

F, F#, G#, A#, C, C#, D, D# ... etc

Musical notation for the third system, featuring chords **G7sus**, **G7**, **G7**, and **C7sus**. The notation includes a treble and bass clef with various notes and rests.

Over FM7/Bb7 an Eb Maj scale

Dm7 - enclose the 3rd then arpeggio down

On Db7 - 'cry me a river lick' begins on 13th

Musical notation for the fourth system, featuring chords **Fm7**, **Bb7**, **Em7b5**, **A7alt**, **Dm7**, and **Db7**. The notation includes a treble and bass clef with various notes and rests.

An appropriate 7 note phrase repeats over Cm7

Musical notation for the fifth system, featuring chords **Cm7**, **F7**, **BbMaj7/F**, **Eb7**, **A^{m7b5}**, **Am7b5**, and **D7**. The notation includes a treble and bass clef with various notes and rests.

Gm7 **C7alt** **A7alt** **D7**

G7

Right and Left H ands in unison an octave apart

G7 **C7b9#11**

On C7 half/whole step dimin scale as above

Line over C7 is made from chord tones 'surrounded' by upper and lower neighbour tones.

Notice the rit - and the crescendo as the line settles on the tonic

C7alt **FMaj7**

In tempo with bass and drums

Notice that the line is diatonic (F Maj - no accidentals) even over Em7b5 and A7alt

Em7b5 **A7alt** **Dm7** **Db7** **Cm7** **F7** **BbMaj7** **Eb7** **Am7b5** **D7**

On Gm7 - C7 main chord tones surrounded by diatonic neighbour tones

Half/whole dim scale on C7

Musical notation for the first system, showing a piano exercise with chords Gm7, C7, A7alt, D7, G7, and C7. The exercise features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

On Em7b5 scale tones (E locrian=F Major scale) played with upper neighbour

Musical notation for the second system, showing a piano exercise with chords Em7b5, A7, Dm7, Db7, Cm7, F7, Bb6, Eb7, Am7b5, and D7. The exercise features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

On F6 RH plays on dominant with grace note - a la Oscar Peterson

Musical notation for the third system, showing a piano exercise with chords Gm7, C7, A7, D7, G7, C7, and F6. The exercise features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

The 'Red Garland' way - LH voicings below octaves with perfect 5ths in RH

This line a mix of chord arpeggios and chord tones enclosed

Musical notation for the fourth system, showing a piano exercise with chords F7, F7sus, E7, BbMaj7, and Eb7. The exercise features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

'Locked hands' - chords in close position with top note

doubled by L Hand below

Musical notation for the fifth system, showing a piano exercise with chords F7, A7, Dm7, D7, G7, and C7sus. The exercise features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

A simple 3 note motif repeats over changing chords

Don't worry if this gets a bit messy!

Em7b5 A7alt Dm7 Db7 Cm7 F7 BbMaj7 Eb7 Am7b5 D7

This system shows a 3-note motif (G4, A4, B4) in the treble clef, which is repeated over a series of chords: Em7b5, A7alt, Dm7, Db7, Cm7, F7, BbMaj7, Eb7, Am7b5, and D7. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment with eighth notes.

Tremolo in RH

Note the black notes sliding to white notes within the chords

Gm7 C7 A7alt D7 G7 C7 F

This system features a tremolo in the right hand (RH) over the chords Gm7, C7, A7alt, D7, G7, C7, and F. The bass line continues with eighth notes. A note in the treble clef is shown sliding from a black note to a white note within a chord.

'A' section repeated by piano only - back to rubato - ignore barlines

Em7b5 A7alt Dm7 Db7 Cm7 Bm7 BbMaj7

This system is the 'A' section, repeated by piano only. It features the chords Em7b5, A7alt, Dm7, Db7, Cm7, Bm7, and BbMaj7. The notation includes slurs and ties, and the instruction is to ignore barlines.

Eb7 Am7b5 D7 G7 C7

This system continues the piano section with chords Eb7, Am7b5, D7, G7, and C7. The notation includes slurs and ties.

C7 C/Bb A7alt D7alt G7

This system concludes the piano section with chords C7, C/Bb, A7alt, D7alt, and G7. The notation includes slurs and ties.

G7 C7

The first system of music consists of two staves. The treble staff begins with a G7 chord, followed by a melodic line. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. A C7 chord is indicated above the second measure. The system concludes with a complex, multi-measure chordal structure.

Typical gospel cadence at the end

C7 F7 Fdim Bbm/F F

The second system features a treble staff with a melodic line and a bass staff with a rhythmic accompaniment. The chords are labeled as C7, F7, Fdim, Bbm/F, and F. The system ends with a final cadence in the F major chord.

F

The third system shows a treble and bass staff with a single F major chord. The treble staff has a melodic line, and the bass staff has a simple accompaniment. The system is mostly empty, suggesting a long hold or a specific improvisation.

The fourth system consists of two empty musical staves, one for the treble clef and one for the bass clef, indicating a section for improvisation or a placeholder for further notation.