Jeff Antoniuk

Jazz Saxophone & Improvisation
40th International Saxophone Symposium
< From Digging Deeper Jazz Video #33 >

JAZZ TONE - The further away we are from the source, the less difference it makes. Least important is your setup - your saxophone (sorry to my sponsors!). Also on the "less important side" is your mouthpiece, reed and ligature (a bit more important, but still not so much). This is why Dexter sounded like Dexter and Trane sounded like Trane, no matter which horn or mouthpiece they were playing.

As we get closer to the source, that is where things really begin happening. Your embouchure. Your oral cavity and how you "voice" things. Your throat and your tongue. These are closer to the source. And finally we arrive - *your air*. That is the source of our sound, and the source of our voice. Great equipment certainly facilitates our voice, and makes it easier or harder to attain, but equipment is just that. They are *tools*. They aren't the source, and they shouldn't "be" our sound.

So, let's pay a bit more attention to the source every day. And then, if you are good, you can go have fun on Ebay buying mouthpieces!

IMPROVISATION - Jazz players get pretty wrapped up in scales. Scales are fun, in a warped kind of way, and they are filled with sounds and colors and potential melodies. But filled with potential melodies in the way that the alphabet is filled with potential Shakespeare sonnets. If you are a poet and you think about the alphabet a lot, you might want to refocus.

Digging Deeper Videos #2 - "Scales Suck"
Digging Deeper Videos #3 - "Scales *Still* Suck"

We have over 75 free videos the Digging Deeper Jazz Video channel on You Tube. (search "Digging Deeper Jazz"). There, you'll find a ton of resources aimed at adult amateurs and semi-pro jazz players. That said, these videos are currently used by all levels of players, and in award-winning high school programs and major universities around the world. New videos are released every Friday. Please check them out, share them with fellow musicians, and get improvising!

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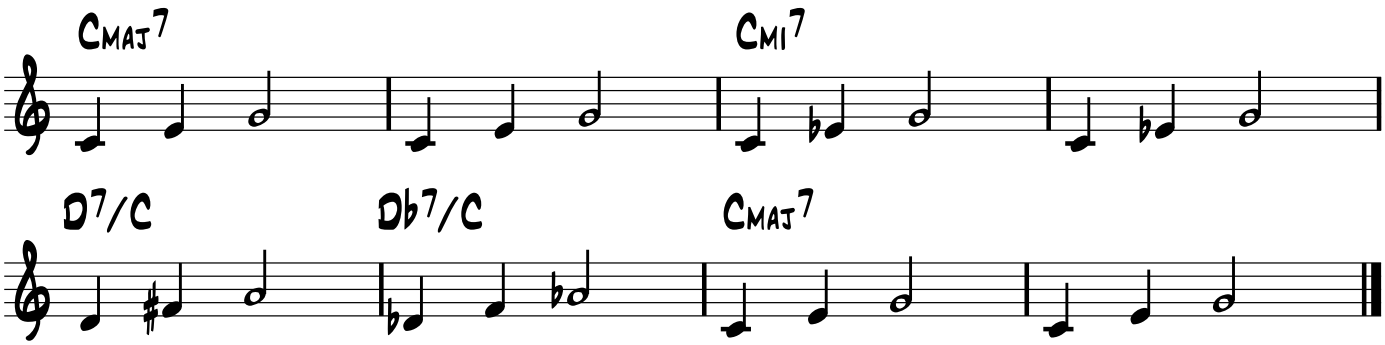
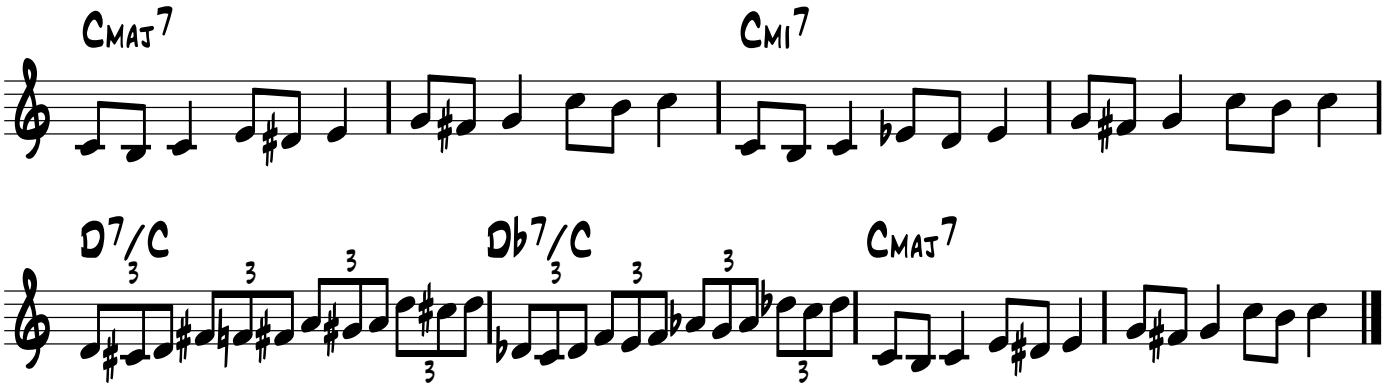
Triad Soloing Ideas

"Green Dolphin Street," first 8 measures

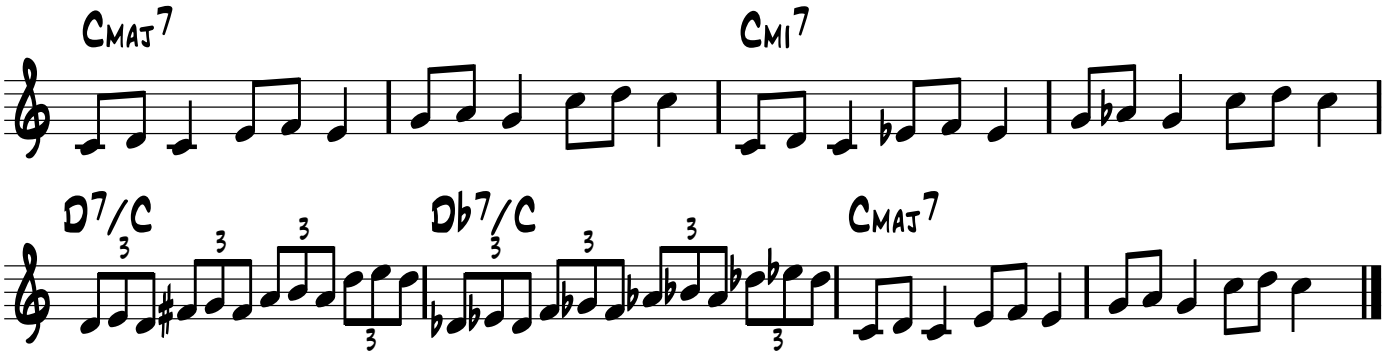
#1 - Triads



#2 - Triads with lower neighbors



#3 - Triads with upper neighbors



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