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Jazz Composition: Theory And Practice



Synopsis

(Berklee Press). When you think of jazz composers, who comes to mind? Jelly Roll Morton, Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Thelonious Monk, Charles Mingus, Bob Brookmeyer. This book is about what they (and many others) do. Jazz composition has evolved into a disciplined art that often evidences great emotional depth and breadth of sophistication. Berklee College of Music legend Ted Pease demystifies the processes involved in writing jazz tunes and in composing episodic and extended jazz works. *Jazz Composition: Theory and Practice* is a by-product of Pease's 25 years of teaching jazz composition. The accompanying audio files help demonstrate melody, harmony and rhythmic elements of jazz and also includes a variety of music-writing exercises focused on learning these same elements to help you begin producing your own effective jazz compositions.

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Customer Reviews

I haven't finished this yet, but I have been through a good deal of it. It seems pretty solid to me. The first section is on melodic considerations, then a section on harmonic considerations. There is a long section on blues, then a few shorter sections on different meters, extended works, and motivic development. The exercises are quite good; for example recognizing various standards from the melodic rhythms. It may not be the best for a beginner, but if you know some basic theory you'll be fine. I liked the section on modal harmony. Personally, I would have led with harmony first, but I am not an educator, so perhaps this is a time-tested method from this era at Berklee. I don't think that you can go wrong with this, but I would also suggest additional resources.

I always found it hard putting the music from my soul on paper. I have been checking all about music composition on the internet but what I found were just the obvious guidelines and warnings about what not to do. Recently I have discovered the jazz composition book by Ted Pearce, I ordered it through . What a surprise, the book was just what I have been looking for, being a self taught musician and a saxophonist, I read through the book but one thing for sure I could not put it down because of the wonderful information contained therein, instantly I felt like Ted was just answering all my questions about creative composition using all and beyond what i new about jazz performance and improvisation. Immediately, I felt the urge to start composing there and then because each lesson has a music manuscript for the learner to write on some composition ideas inspired by the lessons. Now I am confident that the bright journey to music composition starts with this book, it gives you everything you need about understanding and starting to be a composer. I have started falling in love with this book and I don't regret having not gone to Berklee to learn jazz composition and improvisation, this book is a treasure Ireland and I'm glad I grabbed myself a copy for an amazing price that is affordable...this is my ticket to a composers world...Hmm!

This is probably the best book I ever bought on Amzon. I wish it had been published while I was at Berklee, studying Jazz Comp. This is not for beginners, but an advanced refresh course for composers. There won't be much harmony and theory explained. Instead you will learn a new tool and skill set on every page making your composing process a total delight.I took Jazz History lessons from Ted and he is a peach of a man.Why are you still reading this?.....GET THIS BOOK NOW !!!

Lots of great information in this book.Forewarning - this is a deep discussion of jazz melodies, harmonies, rhythms and arrangements. If you're unfamiliar with basic music theory, this might be a bit much.

This is a great book for those who know a respectable amount of jazz theory and want to understand the practice and art of jazz composition. Throughout the book, you are given exercises and opportunities to write your own pieces and comes with a CD. Although this book teaches you modal harmony, chromatic harmony, blues writing, ect., there is no substitute for a jazz composition professional teacher who would be valuable to check your work and offer criticism and suggestions.Writing pieces on your own is basically made easier in terms of form and structure.

Good, solid text book - workbook.

I just completed a class in music theory...The class covered basic theory but was quite involved..Not something you could learn IMO without an instructor..This book suggests having knowledgeable help with the book..But without a solid foundation in theory this book is VERY difficult to say the least

I highly recommend this book for jazz analysis and composition, with the condition of understanding your chord/scale theory. It has sectional explanations which comes with exercises.The book is divided into major chapters like Melodic Considerations, Harmonic Considerations, Blues and Song Form, Arranging and Formatting Considerations, Metric Considerations, Fusion, Episodic Form, Extended Works...My favorite major chapter is MELODIC CONSIDERATIONS (Melodic Rhythm, Interval Patterns, Melodic Variation via Modal Interchange, Melodies Based on Intervallic Patterns, etc etc etc)This book has detailed a lot of new concepts to me. However, I do not recommend this book for total beginners in Jazz.

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