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DISCOVER BLUES IMPROVISATION W/CD (Keyboard Discovery Library)



Synopsis

(Faber Piano Adventures). Discover Blues Improvisation offers the piano student of any age a chance to explore the blues. It also provides an essential foundation for learning to improvise in other styles such as popular music and jazz. A pianist starting this book should have an elementary music-reading proficiency (Level 2 to 3 in a method series). This book is effective for either group piano or private instruction. The exercises and pieces in this book nurture creativity and self-expression through the framework of the 12-bar blues. The improvisation exercises are simple, effective, and fun for both student and teacher. This comprehensive approach features: * instruction in improvisation and theory * appealing pieces with improvisation options * blues technique * blues ear training. The CD includes real blues band accompaniments to play along with and the CD is enhanced so you can also use it in your computer to access standard MIDI files.

Book Information

Series: Keyboard Discovery Library

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

I like this little book. It introduces one to what makes up blues from the swinging eighth notes to blues chord progressions to what makes up the blues scale. Then it walks students through improvising with given parameters. I'm going to see if the Fabers did this for more advanced students. This is just for students at level 2 of 3 in reading. I will probably use this with more advanced students for a short time, just to get them going on the basics. There is a CD they can improvise along with.

great beginner book

My piano teacher got me started on these books. For people who like being self taught, I believe they are excellent. Of course we often need the experience of a wise teacher to catch our faults. I only got a little into this book, before I had to stop playing for a while. Believe all the Faber books have worth

The authors:- Nancy and Randall Faber: The husband and wife team Nancy and Randall Faber are internationally known as authors of the Piano Adventures™ teaching method and over two hundred publications for the piano. They founded the Faber Piano Institute in Ann Arbor, MI. Nancy Faber, who was named "Distinguished Composer of the Year" by the Music Teachers National Association. Randall Faber was master teacher for both the World Conference on Piano Pedagogy and the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy. Dr. Faber holds three degrees from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University. - Edwin McLean is a composer living North Carolina. He is a graduate of the Yale School of Music. He also holds a master's degree in music theory and a bachelor's degree in piano performance from the University of Colorado. Mr. McLean has been the recipient of several grants and awards. He has also won the Allyn and Irwin Composition Competition for his work Sonata for Harpsichord. Since 1979, Edwin McLean has arranged the music of some of today's best-known recording artists. Currently, he is senior editor for The FJH Music Company Inc. For more information, go to: fjhmusic.com/composer/emclean

The book: The intended audience is the mid/late beginner to early intermediate student. The book has 7 chapters: EXPLORING SWING, EXPLORING THE 12-BAR BLUES IN C, EXPLORING THE MINOR 3RD, EXPLORING THE C BLUES SCALE, EXPLORING CALL AND ANSWER, EXPLORING SEVENTH, EXPLORING THE 12-BAR BLUES IN G. The book has a dictionary of musical terms on page 40.

Verdict: I have reviewed much easier and much harder books about the Boogie Woogie. This one is laid back, easy going without being too simplistic. One of the many books that comes to mind, that you could use after you complete this book, would be "Blues & Barrelhouse Piano", by Ann Rabson. It comes with a CD and it also uses the bite-sized educational approach. Easy to bite, easy to chew, and easy to digest... if you practice. ;-)

This is by far the most popular book I offer to my piano students. It is a brilliantly conceived step-by-step introduction to playing blues, and the accompanying playalong CD has really fine, "in

the pocket" grooves on most of the tracks. It is aimed at late elementary-early intermediate students. The book uses only two keys, C and G, showing in each various ways of soloing on the C (and later the G) minor blues scale, with variants of 12 bar blues. Students love the simplicity and easy reading, and the smoking rhythm section on the CD. In fact, for ten years that CD has never left my player, with several students using it each week. Unfortunately, there is no sequel! Jazz-minded students can move to the Aebersold series, but for pop, rock, and R&B the best play-along books are really at the late intermediate level - there is a need for a 'volume 2' at early intermediate level to fill the gap!

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