

# Practice sheet for vocal improvisation video

## Exercise 1 Sing the root notes on a 12-bar blues

by Miriam Ast

13-measure blues progression:

- Measure 1: G<sup>7</sup> (I)
- Measure 2: C<sup>7</sup> (IV)
- Measure 3: G<sup>7</sup> (I)
- Measure 4: [Double bar line]
- Measure 5: C<sup>7</sup> (IV)
- Measure 6: [Double bar line]
- Measure 7: G<sup>7</sup> (I)
- Measure 8: [Double bar line]
- Measure 9: D<sup>7</sup> (V)
- Measure 10: C<sup>7</sup> (IV)
- Measure 11: G<sup>7</sup> (I)
- Measure 12: D<sup>7</sup> (V)

## Exercise 2 Sing the dominant 7th arpeggios

Arpeggiated dominant 7th chords:

- Measure 13: G<sup>7</sup> (I) (1, maj3, 5, b7) - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 14: C<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 15: G<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 16: G<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 17: C<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 18: C<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 19: G<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 20: G<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 21: D<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 22: C<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 23: G<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 24: D<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah

## Exercise 3 Singing patterns, starting on the major 3rd

Singing patterns starting on the major 3rd:

- Measure 25: G<sup>7</sup> (I) (maj3, 4, 5, b7) - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 26: C<sup>7</sup> (maj3, 4, 5, b7) - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 27: G<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 28: G<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 29: C<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 30: C<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 31: G<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah
- Measure 32: G<sup>7</sup> - Du-ba - du - ah

2  
33

D7 C7 G7 D7

**Exercise 4** Singing patterns, starting on the flat 7th

37

G7 C7 G7 G7

b7 6 b7 6 5 1 b7 6 b7 6 5 1

41

C7 C7 G7 G7

45

D7 C7 G7 D7

Task 1 : Come up with 2 or 3 other 1-bar patterns that you sing on the blues form write them down like in the above examples and practise singing them

Task 2: Start manipulating the patterns rhythmically (double time, syncopated) or melodically (find melodic variations) Sing a few choruses and get creative, this will help you to start improvising

Task 3: Listen to the following jazz and scat singers over the next couple of weeks. Learn a scat solo by one of your favourites and sing it along to the record!

Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn, Carmen McRae, Anita O'Day, Chet Baker, Betty Carter, Jazzmeia Horn, Diana Krall, Mark Murphy, Bobby McFerrin

Also listen to these iconic jazz albums by the great masters of improvisation:

- Kind of Blue - Miles Davis
- Chet Baker Sings - Chet Baker
- Saxophone Collossus - Sonny Rollins
- Blue Train - John Coltrane
- Somethin' Else - Cannonball Adderly
- Ellington at Newport - Duke Ellington
- Ella & Louis - Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong