Spring 2024 NMSU Jazz Auditions

All instruments encouraged to audition (yes, even mezzos and violas)!

Ensemble Information:

- Jazz Ensemble (MUSC 363), MWF 1:30-2:20pm NMSU's premier jazz ensemble in a traditional big band format; performs two full programs each semester, with visiting guest artists and at festivals. Directed by Jacob Dalager, assisted by Lincoln Larsen.
- Jazz Lab Band (MUSC 2130), MWF 2:30-3:20pm NMSU's experimental jazz band, open to alternative instrumentation, and a laboratory for musical experimentation; performs two half programs each semester. Directed by Dr. Allan Kaplan, assisted by Dr. Jacob Dalager and Lincoln Larsen.
- Jazz Combos, date/times TBD Jazz chamber groups focused on developing interaction and improvisation skills. Led by Dr. Jacob Dalager, Dr. Christian Chesanek, Josh Carter, Brian Wright, Abel Mireles, and Miguel Torres.

Audition Dates and Times (all auditions in MC 204)

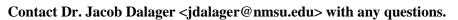
- Tuesday, January 16th, 2024
 - o Trumpets: 10:30-12:30pm
 - Saxophones: 12:30-2:30pm
 - Trombones: 2:30-4pm
 - Rhythm section and all other instruments: 4-6pm

Audition Materials (*available at jazz.nmsu.edu*)

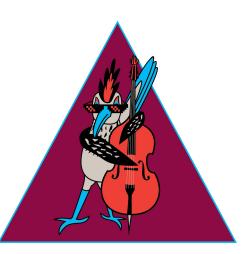
- 1. Scales:
 - a. Chromatic scale from lowest to highest possible range
 - b. Optional, but encouraged: Major, minor, and/or jazz scales in all 12 keys
- 2. Au Privave:
 - a. **ALL** instruments, play the melody one time through. (Drums, approximate the melody as best you can on the drum kit).
 - b. Rhythm section only: comp for one chorus
 - c. Optional, but encouraged for all: improvise on the tune
- 3. Lead trumpet only: Little Pixie II by Thad Jones
- 4. Possible Sight-reading

Tips:

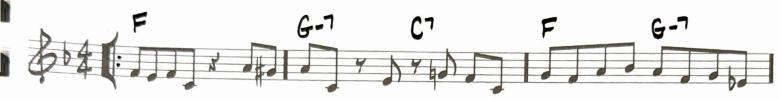
- Listen, listen, listen to recordings of the audition materials
- Play Au Privave *only* as fast as you can do so accurately
- Prioritize style and rhythm
- For improvisation, keep the melody in mind at all times
- Practice moving through the chord changes with guide tones
- Arpeggiate the chords to learn the harmony
- Keep your improvisation simple but in the groove
- Listen, listen, listen, imitate, and play along
- Finally, listen some more.



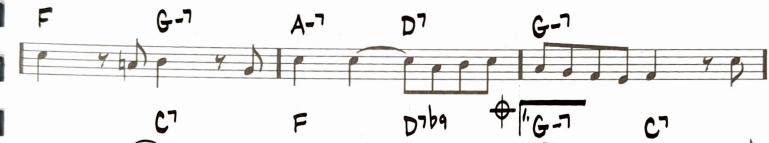


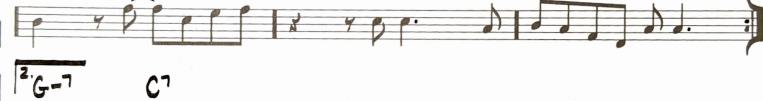


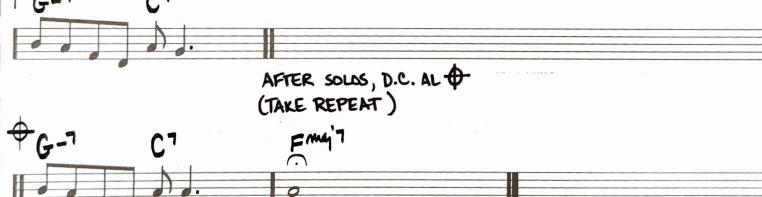




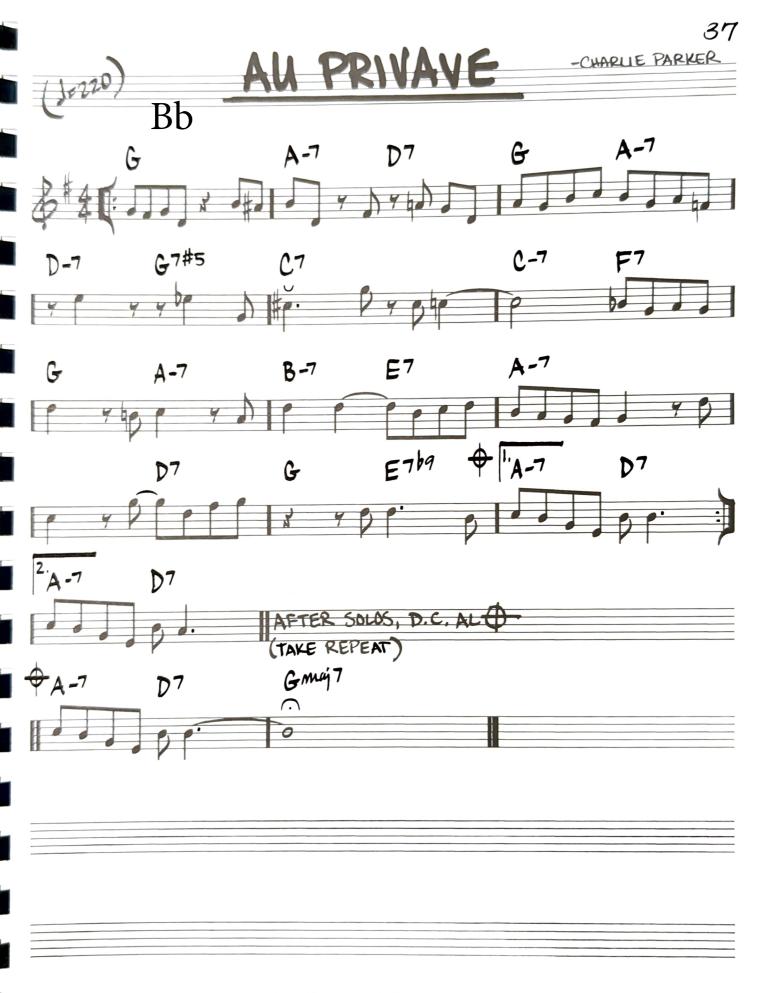




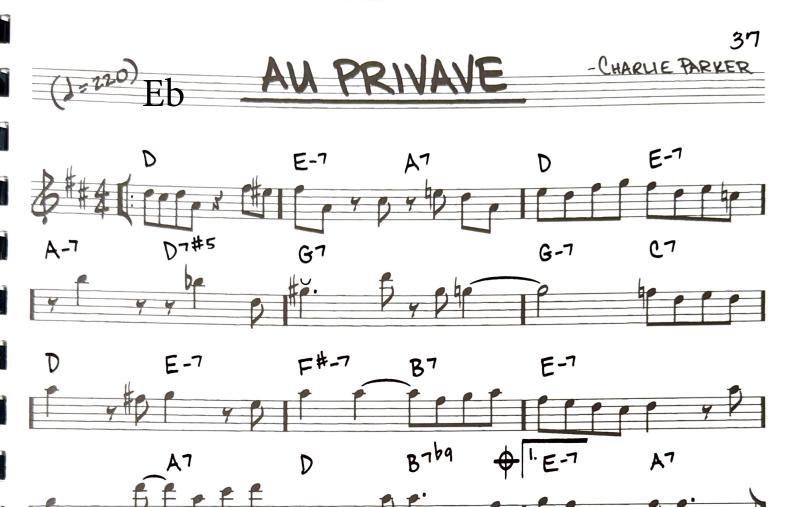


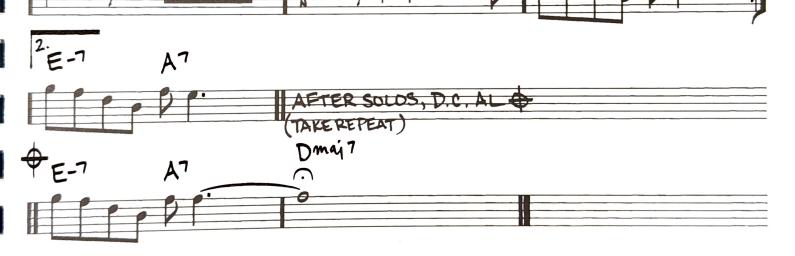


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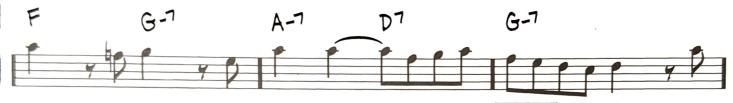
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2021 Lead Trumpet Excerpts

Little Pixie II, Thad Jones (Letter P until 2 bars before Letter R)



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