LINEAR JAZZ IMPROVISATION

Songbook Series: Riffraff (F Blues)

Ed Byrne

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INTRODUCTION

Riffraff is comprised of exercises and etudes which apply Chromatic Targeting to a specific tune, as prescribed in *Linear Jazz Improvisation, Book I*. It is recommended that you study that first—or along with—this book, which applies the *Ten Chromatic Targeting Groups* of LJI (see the chart below) to *Riffraff*, a twelve-bar blues. In these exercises we target the Reduced Melody, Guide Tone Line, and Root Progression in a variety of ways, targeting which also develops the reduced rhythms of the composition. There are also some excellent etudes which combine all of these exercizes into advanced LJI solutions. Although arranged in order, feel free to mix and match these exercizes and etudes at will.

All *Linear Jazz Improvisation* exercise books include state of the art Playback Files with which to practice. Sing all of these exercises. Read each exercise or etude at first if you must, but only as a starting point, since our goal is to make these patterns part of your vocabulary. Eventually you will be able to play them in any given tempo with the aid of a metronome alone. Play these exercises straight at first, without vibrato and inflection.

1. Play and Sing each exercise as written.

2. Play and Sing by rote (without reading).

3. Improvise on each; experiment with different jazz articulations, inflections, vibratos, tempos, and rhythmic styles.

4. Play back one exercise type, such as the reduced melody, while practicing another (guide tone line or root progression).

5. While this book is programmed to play back at q.n. = 80, you can set the document for any tempo in the tempo menu at the top.

6. Measure numbers are supplied, since you will need to type that number into the measure box at the top in order to return to a specific measure.

7. For best results, keyboard players should do all of these exercises in octaves with both hands, not looking at your keyboard or fingers.

TEN CHROMATIC TARGETING GROUPS

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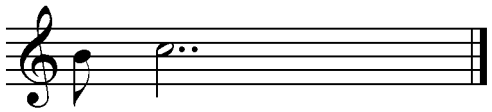

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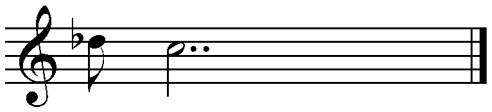

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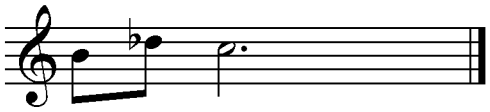

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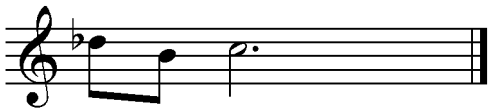

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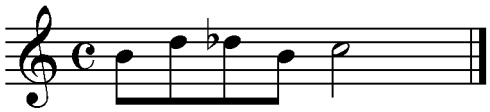

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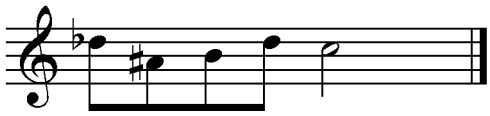

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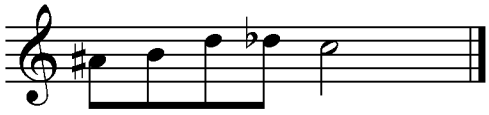

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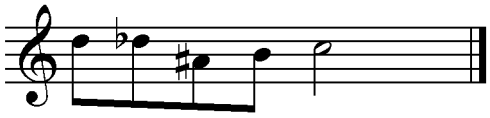

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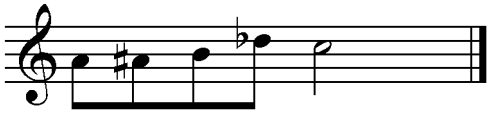

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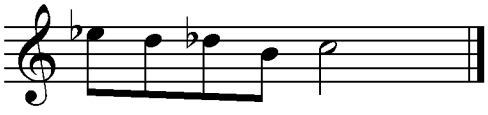


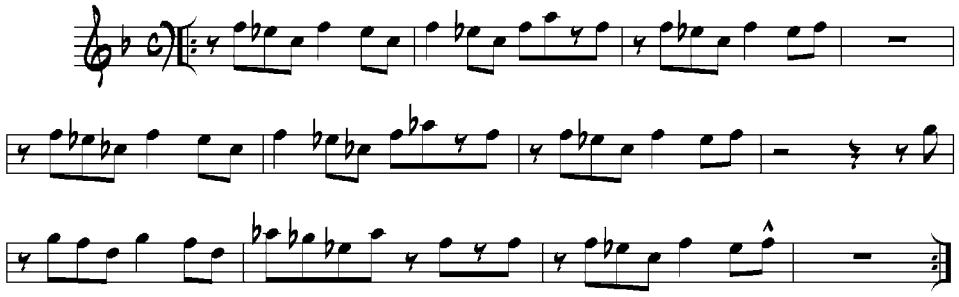
VARIOUS EXCERPTED EXAMPLES:

Concert

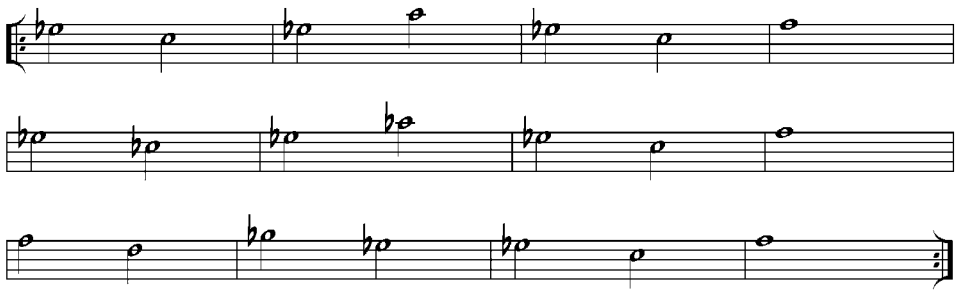
Riffraff

Ed Byrne

♩=184
Swing



Reduced Melody



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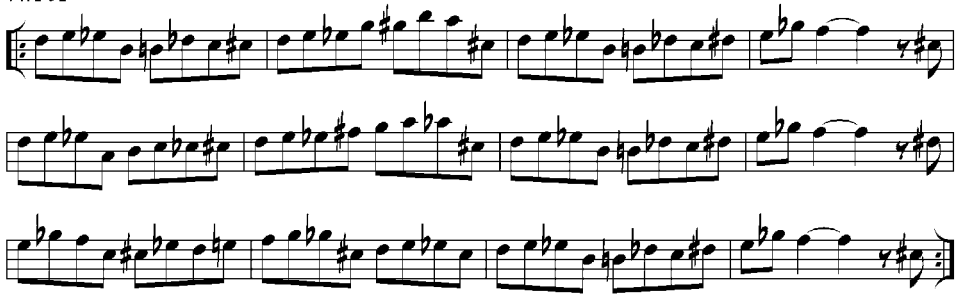

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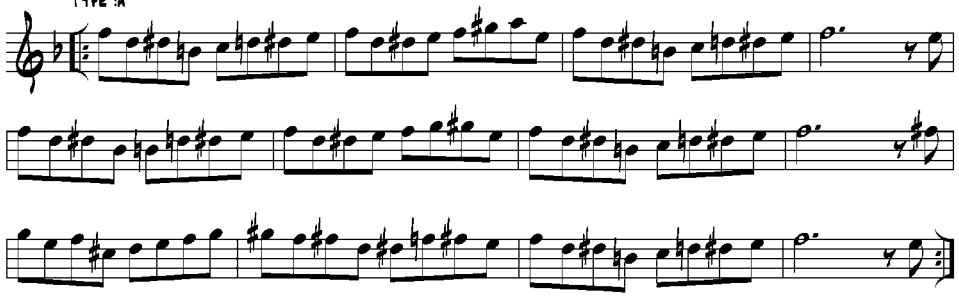
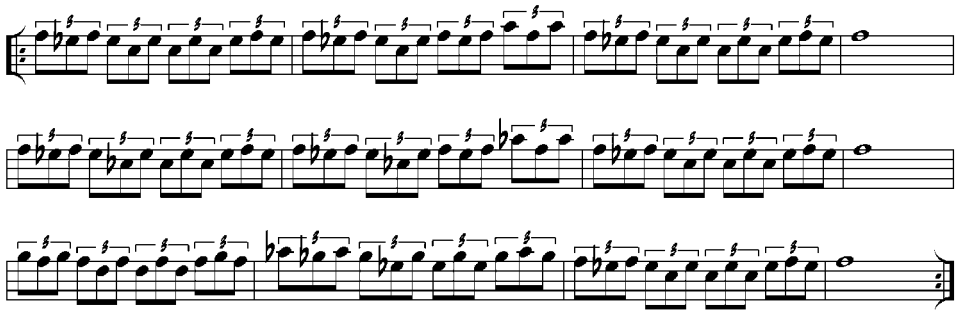
Simplified Melody Targeted

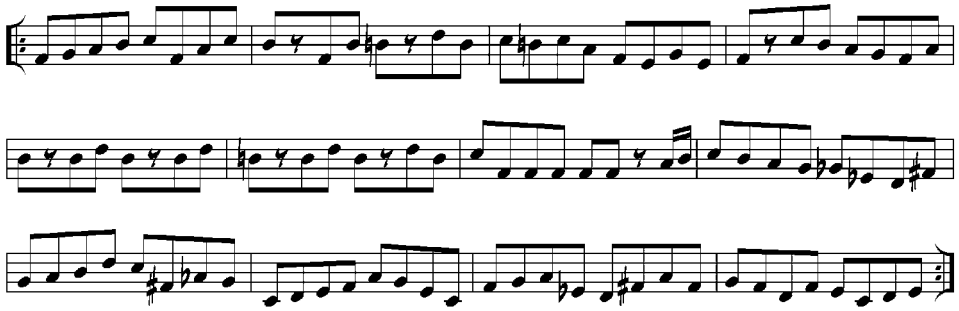
Type 1A



Etude 9



Root Progression Etude



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