

Charles McPherson's Solo on "Blues for Chuck"

General Observations:

Solo generally favors mid- to high-range

Two possible quotes of other tunes

Nice mix of blues references and bebop language

Rhythmically varied

Ideas are generally in time

Use of vibrato, some false fingerings, articulation effects all contribute to his signature style

Specific observations/language

m. 3

blues idea

m. 8

possible quote of Peanut Vendor

m. 11

looks more like Bb major than A7 idea

mm. 14-15

this chorus also starts with a simpler blues idea

mm. 21-22

chromatic idea here seems to reference Donna Lee

mm. 26-29

again starts chorus with simple D idea, repeated, lifted chromatically

mm. 30-31

D minor-oriented idea over G7

m. 32

chromatic elaboration over repetitive A's

mm. 33-35

chromatic

m. 36

quite similar to m. 14

mm. 36-37

lick up to the high E recounts m. 23

mm. 40-41

based on Ab7 (tritone sub of D7)

mm. 43-44

outlines Dmaj7 rather than D7

m. 45

chromatic

mm. 47-50

ends with blues idea

Ideas for 12-key practice:

mm. 1-2

for a short simple diatonic idea

mm. 14-15

nice diatonic blues idea

mm. 17-18

for 2-5-1- idea into the downbeat

mm. 28-29

two measures of melodic material central to one key

m. 30 into m. 31

simple outline of D minor

mm. 40-41

great sounding and succinct tritone sub idea