

TEACHING IDEAS

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I use this list for teaching and to keep track of what we talked about in the lessons. Also, I can see, in a glance, know what we did and how many times we worked on something by adding in front of a subject: 1x, 2x, etc.

1. Philosophy (Why are you playing ? What is music for you ? etc..)
2. Organizing your Practice : How to do it all :-)
3. Relaxation, position
4. Set up (mouthpiece, reeds, ligature etc.)
5. Ear training exercises. With or without instruments. Serie of exercises
6. Long tone, pitch. What is sharp and flat on your horn ? Alternate fingerings
7. Overtone, octave and fifth
8. Improvising with the overtones (Coltrane, Bergonzi, Grossman, Liebman etc.)
9. Bottom. Sub tone, high embouchure. Crescendo and decrescendo
10. Altissimo. Fingering and technique
11. Attack : Tongue placement, starting a note, stopping the sound with the tongue etc..
12. Articulation : Flexibility of attack
13. Double tonguing technique
14. Miscellaneous sound exercise : bend, with or without 8oct key, etc...
15. Scale and Motifs with chord symbols
16. II V7 min and maj (McGill test)
17. Cycles 5th (McGill test) 2 beats per chord, 1 bar & 2 bars

18. Transcription (McGill test) using different techniques
19. Playing along recordings : Choosing challenging tracks. For example with drums solos and also tracks that just feel great and are inspiring.
20. Classical (McGill test) Developing knowledge of repertoire and also transcribing your own classical repertoire !!
21. Repertoire (McGill test) Learning tunes
22. Voice leading and harmony : I use 4 systems a) 4-3 b) 5-9 to 9-13 c) upper structure triads d) Billy Strayhorn system
23. List of ideas thru tunes : a) Register b) rhythm c) harmony d) others (repeated notes, short or long notes etc..)
24. Rhythm exercises with metronome (and of the beat, metro fast on 2 and 4 while playing half note triplets etc..)
25. Polyrhythm : feeling them over 2 bars, 4 bars etc.
26. Rhythmic illusions : moving things by one quarter notes, triplets illusions, in 4-4, 3-4 etc
27. Odd Meter : Developing a physical grip on meters. How you feel them. Different ways of counting.
28. Tech blowing, double X, Fast tempo : Getting your fingers moving
29. Write you own studies
30. The Art of studying music from your own recordings
31. Harmonic concepts : Finding the sounds that help you express your own style
32. Patterns. Developing a personal vocabulary with your own patterns
33. Sight Reading : Look ahead of where you are playing
34. How to practice for a concert
35. Working on hard head
36. Composition, arrangement technics. Often helping you as a improviser
37. Been a leader, music business, leading a project
38. Networking, geography: How to meet great players etc..
39. Playing other instruments (Drums, piano, bass, wind etc.)