

The Fisher Jazz Collective

JAZZ WORKSHOP



The Fisher Jazz Collective: featuring Charles Fisher
Page 1 of 2 Pages | Compiled and edited by Osmond and CC Fisher

5 MINS - CHARLIE PARKER - “Now’s The Time” is a blues in F written by Charlie Parker and is a very important blues head to learn. I would recommend checking out Charlie Parker’s solo on this tune as it embodies a classic mix of blues and his innovation of bebop. I would also suggest paying attention to the melody when you think about soloing. This should be happening on any tune but especially on a blues as the tendency is to just play your “blues stuff” or dismiss it as just another blues tune. The melody should dictate how you express your solo on your instrument.

5-10 MINS - INTRODUCE CHARLES AND THE JAZZ COLLECTIVE. Charles Fisher is a B.A.C. trumpet artist and promising young musician from Kansas City. Charles learned music initially from his music educator and musician parents, Osmond and CC. He currently studies with Bobby Watson, Clarence Smith, and other notable teaching artists. Charles is a true member of the Kansas City Jazz music scene and community. He also participates in the annual Spotlight: Charlie Parker events each August, like the “Bird Boot Camp” and the “ARC Student Jazz Jam Session.” In addition to performing with his Grandview High School instrumental music ensembles under Mr. Charles Jakes, he participates in the “Kansas City Jazz Academy” program of the American Jazz Museum. Charles Fisher’s appearance is sponsored by B.A.C. Horn Doctor, Meyer Music, and a Special Project sponsorship of the Burnett Music Foundation. His story as a musician involves studying jazz. Charles started practicing writing transcriptions of jazz standards, to “make them his own” – and he has inculcated the traditional importance of establishing a unique musical voice.

5 MINS – CHARLES PLAY ANOTHER BLUES STANDARD - “SANDU” is a 12 bar blues written by the great trumpeter Clifford Brown. There are a few important things to know about this blues. First of all it’s in Eb which is a less common key for a blues. Second of all be sure to listen to recordings of the tune and notice the Bb pedals on beats two and four for measures nine and ten. This is a great head and is called at jam sessions frequently.

15 MINS – DISCUSS & APPLY FOUNDATIONAL/BASIC JAZZ HARMONY - Use “Now’s the Time” as a template to Discuss one’s individual approach to playing the blues.

10-15 MINS – TOUCH ON IMPROVISATIONAL CONCEPTS - Nothing too in depth, just a few basic principles that focus on BeBop and the movement.

5 MINS HOW POP MUSIC CAN BE USED IN STRAIGHT AHEAD JAZZ - “Cool It Now,” by New Edition, arr. Jermaine Jennings) Cool It Now" is a 1984 hit single by American group New Edition, and is the first single from their eponymous second album, New Edition. In the US, the song entered the Hot Black Singles chart on September 1, 1984. The song peaked at number 4 in January 1985 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Lyrically, the song depicts a guy professing his love for a girl, despite growing concerns from his friends.

10-15 mins – QUESTION & ANSWER