

Resources

Chop-Monster 1 – This one really swings!

Chop-Monster is a sequential jazz improvisation method by acclaimed jazz pianist and educator Shelly Berg that utilizes a "call-and-response" approach: students listen to a jazz idea, imitate it until it is internalized, and then "try it on their own." In Chop-Monster 1, students will hear and improvise to the Ima7, iimi7, and V7 chords in the key of B-flat, plus a basic blues progression. In Chop-Monster 2 students will hear and improvise to the ii-V-I progression in three keys (concert B-flat, E-flat, F).

Shelly Berg, published by Alfred

iRealB – app runs on the **iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, Android** and **Mac**.

iRealB is a collection of chord changes available on your device and is also a play-along program.

You can set the key, tempo and rhythm style. You can create your own sets of changes and even email a pdf chart. It is similar to Band in a Box in an inexpensive, portable form.

I find it an invaluable practice/teaching tool.

<http://www.irealb.com/>

Drum Genius – app runs on

Drum samples taken from classic recordings and drum methods. I call it the "real world" metronome. It has many styles and grooves which are tempo-specific.

Live Performance

A live performance can really inspire students! Bring in a small group to create music before their eyes. Or organize a visit to a college/community big band. I still remember playing in the midst of a college band and feeling the difference in intensity.

Clinician

Bring in a dynamic individual to workshop the students and provide a different voice.

Transcribing Programs

Transcribe!

<http://www.seventhstring.com/xscribe/overview.html>

Or

Amazing Slow Downer

<http://www.ronimusic.com/>

Strategies for Jazz Improvisation 101 – Kristen Strom

With each of these programs you can select a section of music and slow it down without changing the pitch. They each offer a 30-day free trial period.

Summer Camps

Camps are great for inspiration and creating a culture of playing together among the students. I am involved with these two:

Stanford Jazz Workshop

<http://stanfordjazz.org/>

South Bay Summer Jazz Intensive

<https://www.southbaysummerjazz.org/>

www.kristenstrom.com