

JamAlong Online Workshop

“Advanced Jamming”

Class Syllabus

1. Review of the Basics
 - a. The Five Jamming Levels (chart)
 - b. Jam Anatomy (chart)
 - c. Etiquette
 - i. Timing is everything
 - ii. Loud Leads, Quiet Backup!
 - iii. Everyone gets a chance
 - iv. Silence is Golden (don't play what you don't know!)
2. Advanced Jammer Tool Box
 - a. Advanced Scales
 - i. Pentatonic, Bluegrass and Blues
 - ii. Modes: Mixolydian and Dorian
 - iii. Extra Spice: Chromatic
 - b. Advanced Chords
 - i. Inversions, inversions, inversions
 - ii. Must-have Jazz Chords: 9th, Minor 7th, 6th and Diminished
 - iii. “Chords as Scales”: Arpeggios
 - iv. Partial Chords (open strings and color tones!)
 - c. Advanced Theory*
 - i. Scale Formulas
 - ii. Modal “Parent Scale” Theory
 - iii. The Four Inversions for Chords
 - iv. Chord Families
 - v. Jazz Chord-Building (Extensions and Alterations)
 - vi. Passing and Substitute Chords
3. Advanced Backup
 - a. Using Inversions
 - b. Bass Lines
 - c. Fill Licks
 - d. Passing Chords: 7ths and Chromatic
 - e. Substitute Chords

- f. Whole-Time vs Half-Time
 - g. Melodic Backup vs Harmonic Backup (notes vs chords)
 - h. Using the Canvas of Silence
4. Advanced Leads
- a. The Art of the Variation
 - i. The “8 va” (Octave Variation)
 - ii. Instrumental Styles (per instrument)
 - iii. Musical Styles
 - 1. Blues based*
 - 2. Jazz based*
 - 3. Theme Scale
 - 4. Arpeggio based
 - b. The Art of Improvisation*
 - i. Survival Basics
 - 1. Having a functional Tool Box
 - 2. Making it through your lead!
 - 3. Having a “net” (basic lead or variation)
 - ii. The two Paths: Chords or Melody
 - iii. Lick Based
 - iv. Instrumental-technique Based
 - v. “Pure Improv” Tool Box
 - 1. Scales/Scale Patterns
 - 2. Arpeggios/Arpeggio Patterns
 - 3. Intervals (“double stops”)
 - vi. “Playing the Changes”: Improv over chords
 - vii. “Speaking with your Instrument”: Using Phrases
5. Advanced Jamming: Interaction
- a. Harmony Parts
 - b. Split Breaks (1/2 breaks. ¼ breaks)
 - c. The final frontier: Mutual Improvisation
6. The Ultimate Goal: Being a good Jam Leader!
- a. Having common songs (JamAlong Books!)
 - b. Organizing Groups
 - c. Jam Leading Skills
 - i. Kind and All Inclusive
 - ii. Jam Conducting
 - iii. Sharing the Leader Role
 - iv. Making friends and building community!