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Blues Scatitudes: Vocal Improvisations Of The Blues (Book & CD)



Synopsis

(Music Sales America). Vocal improvisations on the blues from Bob Stoloff author of *Scat: Vocal Improvisation Techniques*. Focuses on blues solos in a variety of contemporary grooves and covers accents, ties and syllable articulation. Includes a CD-ROM with 51 MP3 files of rhythm tracks for vocalists and instrumentalists.

Book Information

Paperback: 80 pages

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Customer Reviews

Reviewed this text for a possible course adoption. Having used the author's better-known "Scat!" in classes, I've always found it a bit hit or miss. This book focuses on blues but, interestingly, with a wonderful variation of grooves. The etudes are accessible and presented by both male and female vocalists. A fully live accompaniment would have been nice, and it's unfortunate that the female singer disregards the notated syllables. Both singers, however, are excellent with respect to feel and pitch-accuracy. Highly recommended!

I would have to agree in general with a prior reviewer about the disappointing overall quality of this book. There is almost no instruction in the book, it is basically a collection of sheet music pieces for the scat songs that are included on the accompanying CD, with the sheet music making up about 80-90% of the book contents. Another point of concern is this: Blues music is a very simple form. I would venture to say that the majority of persons who want to work with blues music and might consider this item for purchase cannot read music, much less sight-sing, which is presumed in the

book. I do 'get' that scat singing is definitely not for the beginning or novice singer, but would still maintain that most people wanting to learn about singing the blues (i.e., singers who only sing or instrumentalists who sing) are not likely able to sight-sing. That being said, fortunately, you do not have to be able to sight-sing to get something out of this work. Each song begins with a vocalist singing a scat melody, then the vocal track is removed but the melody is played instrumentally, and then finally the basic musical track is played without a reference scat melody so that the learner can improvise his or her own. I did find this to be a useful learning structure with respect to encouraging improvisation and creativity. In my mind, it is more useful to think of this primarily as an instructional CD that comes with a book of sheet music - rather than primarily as a book that comes with a CD to illustrate concepts covered in the book. The CD is definitely the star of the show, not the book. Overall, I'd say it's definitely worthwhile, but if you buy it used, be CERTAIN to make sure that the CD is included with the book.

What a fun story! I love a heroine with sass - and Sinead had it in abundance. Great writing style, great laughs. Will read this author again.

Bob Stoloff has done it again, he's written a great book, this time with a wonderful mp3 Cd included, which has many different blues etudes for voice. The singers on the CD sound great, the exercises are fun and challenging and the product makes both teaching and learning blues a pleasure.

I was VERY disappointed with this product. I expected some instruction and explanation. There is precious little of that. What you get is poorly edited, poorly organized for a user, and of little use to someone who wants to learn scat singing. The MP3 is not practical if you want to play this from a stereo that is not MP3 enabled (which is very common). Teacher, you get a D- for this effort. You should do better as a teacher and as someone peddling a book.

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