

M.A.M.I.

Matrix Approach to Music Improvisation

Is a concept that was devised as the result of years of experimentation and analysis using musical scales as a basis for improvisation. The Matrix Approach is a unique and revolutionary new system for unraveling the melodic and harmonic creative possibilities of subject scales quickly, easily, and most importantly...logically!

As a lifelong student of the guitar, I had found that learning fingerings and patterns for scales, chords, and modes were great only up to a point. To really comprehend and create music as well as develop my own musical style I needed a better method than what I had found available on the market. Whether through teachers or text. I wanted something to expand my musical, compositional, and especially improvisational boundaries.

I am not ashamed to admit to being a frustrated student for years. Partly because the subject of music has often been made far too complex in its discussion and especially instruction. Music, even complex forms have a simple logical basis at their core. Sometimes teachers forget this fact. Unfortunately quite often, instruction is musically fragmented and absent in terms of the creative process. This guide can assist both teachers and students.

Because most players and their teachers are largely products of instruction theories, methods and techniques which have been handed down for years, there are far too many closed minds regarding musical creativity and newer methods towards this process. In order to grow musically and create, an open mind is absolutely, positively the key.

Creative musicians (and people) view similar things in different ways, and different things in similar ways!!!!...

I firmly believe that each player's approach to music as well as their instrument has to be not only comprehensive but also intimate and personal as well. Consider that a player's musical logic and understanding dictates creative plus effective, inspiring material. It is because of this belief that I offer the Matrix Approach to Musical Improvisation.

My intention is not to "spoon-feed" or regiment you studies at all, but rather to nurture and enhance your creativity on your instrument. There will be hints, but my only rule for this text is: THOUGHT + EXPERIMENTATION = CREATIVITY!

It is for this reason I've worked long and hard to devise a fresh new guide which will allow all players from beginners to advanced, a system to understand, and apply the instrument in a more simple, logical and open manner.

All that is required is a willingness to understand and experiment with the concepts presented, and with patient study this approach will surely pay off. These ideas provide logic and continuity to all forms of music. Instead of spending hours and years of piecemeal learning with little regard to musical relationships, ie. a chord fingering here...a scale there, M.A.M.I. provides insight into scalar relationships and integrates melodic, chordal and harmonic possibilities for a given scale quickly and easily, at-a-glance. It is also unique in that it doubles as a handy chord reference text.

The very best musicians understand that music is all about relationships i.e. intervallic, harmonic, chordal, etc. M.A.M.I. unravels these sometimes "mysterious" relationships and paves the way for independent, inspired, and creative exploration of one's musical boundaries. The nine Matrix Approach to Improvisation Scale Text elements are explained in depth on the following pages and include these elements for the analysis of each subject scale for musical potential.

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