

LESS 8.5.

THE I-VI-II-V PROGRESSION

FROM DIGGING DEEPER JAZZ VIDEO #7

1

Cmaj7 Am7 Dm7 G7

2

Cmaj7 A7 Dm7 G7

3

Cmaj7 A7(b9) Dm7 G7(b9)

4

Cmaj7 A7(b9) Dm7 G7(#5)

The goal here is to play these variations of the I - Vi - II - V progression over and over, unaccompanied, so that someone walking into the room could hear EXACTLY what you are doing . . . they could hear what is underlying what you are playing, just by the melody that you are improvising. They could hear the harmony that you are using by the shape and content of your melody. Some hints

- Play SLOWLY.
- Play unaccompanied. Guitarists and pianists, do NOT comp for yourself. Single lines.
- Nail the resolutions as you move from chord to chord.
- Stay in ONE key for days or weeks. DIG DEEP holes, not a bunch of shallow ones.
- Keep the "Quality Meter" HIGH.
- Make the four progressions here sound VERY different from each other. Strive to HEAR the differences.
- Chord Tones are the way to go about 98% of the time, at least to begin with.