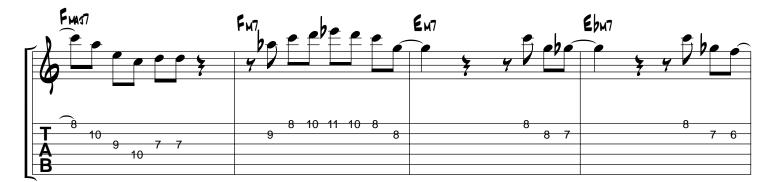
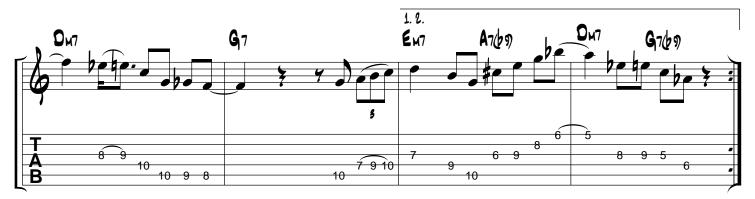
FREQUENT FLYER ("BIRD'S BLUES")

MUSIC BY MARK STEFANI

"Frequent Flyer" is a bebop blues composition, dedicated to Dave Illig, my friend and a fine jazz guitarist residing in Houston, Texas. When Dave isn't flying around the fingerboard, he's busy piloting commercial jetliners for a major airline, hence the title of this tribute. Uptempo, about 215 bpm or greater. Have fun!







NOTES ...

The term "Bird's Blues" refers to alto saxophone legend, Charlie Parker, and his use of an alternative chord progression to the standard, 12-bar swing blues. Two well-known examples of this format are "Blues for Alice" (Bird) and "Freight Trane" (Tommy Flanagan). Observe the I (C) and IV (F) chords, functioning as major 7ths instead of the usual dominant 7ths, giving the tune a much sweeter flavor. You'll also note a series of short II-Vs in measures 2-4, backcycling into the Fmaj7 at bar 5, followed by chromatically descending minor 7ths in measures 5-8, leading to the II-V and a more melodic turnaround in the final four bars. This progression is challenging for the improviser, because the changes need to be addressed to achieve success.

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