



Jazz Café

volume one

music for horn and piano



Listen Up!	Thomas Bacon	p. 4
Lorna Doin'	Thomas Bacon	p. 6
L. M.	Vincent Chancey	p. 8
New York Nights	Vincent Chancey	p.10
Big George Blues	Tom Varner	p.12
Hemoglobin	Tom Varner	p.14
Miradita	John Clark	p.17
Sandy	John Clark	p.20
Quiet Time	Richard Todd	p.22



Editor's Notes

Welcome to the Jazz Café – featuring the best jazz French horn players from New York and Los Angeles sharing some of their favorite pieces. Although we've included some written-out solos, improvisation is what jazz is all about, and freedom is what all jazz players seek. So you are encouraged to "play the changes" instead of the notes, make each performance of these pieces unique and special because it's yours. And like a real life jazz café, if a bass player and drummer happen to stop by, you could invite them to sit in.

For years I have heard the question from horn students "How can I learn to play jazz on the horn?" And more than a few times I've heard other young players say "My teacher told me the French horn can't play jazz." Listen to any of these composers' recordings and you'll see that the French horn makes for a great jazz instrument. As for how you learn to play jazz horn: it's the same way you learn to play any other kind of music – through lots of study and practice, and... hanging out in a jazz café. This book won't make you a great jazz player, but it will give you something to study and practice on your way to becoming one. Not to mention some cool new pieces to enliven your next recital!

The Editor
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