

Moonlight In Vermont

Here are the fingerings that I use to play a jazz chord-melody arrangement of Karl Suessdorf and John M. Blackburn's 1944 standard *Moonlight In Vermont*. I play it in the guitar-friendly key of C not the original key of Eb. The song is played slowly in 4/4 time. Alternate chord substitutions are indicated in parentheses above the chord I used. The "A" section is built around the I-vi-i-V Standard Progression. Try replacing the "G7" chord in bar 2 with a "Db7" (tritone substitution).

K. J. McElrath, Musicologist for JazzStandards.com, explains: "The harmonic progression-quite advanced for its time and heralding the advent of "cool"--makes sophisticated use of simple elements. Part of this lies in the melodic tones that make up the chord extensions (particularly the 13th, 11th, 9th and flatted 5th). The transition at "B" is particularly interesting in its abrupt jump to a "distant" key (Db major to F major) and smooth return to the original tonic by way of chromatic movement. From the last tonic chord of "A," the harmony leaps up a tri-tone in a ii7 embellishment of the V7 of the new key (Gm9 - C7(b9b5) -Fma9) while the melody note forms the 11th of the initial chord. The new tonic is followed by VI (V7/ii) in a brief turnaround before settling once more on the F major tonality. The entire sequence is then repeated a half-step higher, putting the tonality into Gb major-closely related and easily modulated to Db.

Although the original changes are elegant, the construction of the melody-particularly "B"-does contain opportunities to use varying harmonies and chord substitutions."

A

(C6	Am7)			(Bb7b5)
Q		Dm9 G13	C69 Am11C/G	F#m7b5 Bb7
E--5---3-----	-----	-----	--5--3--0-----	-----
B--5---3---5---3--	-----	--5---5--	--3--3--1--1--	--3-5-----
G--4---2---4---2--	-----	--5---4--	--2--2--0--0--	--2---1--
D--3---2---3---2--	-----	--3---3--	--2--2--0--2--	--2---0--
A--3---2---3---2--	-----	--5-----	--3--2--0-----	--3---1--
E-----	-----	-----3--	-----3--	--2-----
1.		2.	3.	4.

(Dm9	G7sus)				
Dm9	Bm7b5	G11	G9	C6	Dm11 G7#5b9
E-----	-----	-----	-----	-----5-----4---	-----
B-----5-----3-----1-----	-----	-----	-----	---1---6---4---	-----
G-----5-----2-----2-----2-----	-----	-----	-----	---2---5---4---	-----
D-----3-----3-----3-----3-----	-----	-----	-----	---2---5---3---	-----
A-----5-----2-----	-----	-----	-----	---3---5-----	-----
E-----	-----	-----3-----3-----	-----	-----3---	-----
5.				6.	

A

C6 C69CM7 **G6** Dm9/A Abo C6C69Am11F#7b5 Fm6 Bb7

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E--5--3--0-----|-----|--5--3--0-----|-----0-----|
B--5--3--0--3--|--5--5--|--5--3--1--1--|--3--1-----|
G--5--2--0--4--|--5--4--|--5--2--0--3--|--1--1--1--|
D--5--2--2--2--|--3--3--|--5--2--0--2--|--1--0--0--|
A--3--3--3-----|-----|--3--2--0-----|--3-----1--|
E-----3--|--5--4--|-----2--|--1--1-----|
7.          8.          9.          10.
  
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Dm7 Em7 FM7 G9 C6

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E-----|-----|
B-----5-----3-----1-----|-----1-----|
G-----5-----0-----2-----2-----|-----2-----|
D-----3-----0-----2-----3-----|-----2-----|
A-----5-----2-----|-----3-----|
E-----0-----1-----3-----|-----|
11.          12.
  
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B

(EM7 F#m7 Gm6 E/G#)

(B7 EM7 C#m7) (B7)

(EM7 F#)

F#m11 F7b5 G#m7 G9 F#m11 F7b5 B7b9

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E-----|-----|-----7--5--7--|
B--0-0-0--0-0-0--|--0-0-0--0-0-0--|--0-0-0--4--4--4--|
G--2-----2-----|--4-----2-----|--2--2--5--5--5--|
D--2-----1-----|--4-----3-----|--2--1--4--4--4--|
A-----|-----|-----|
E--2-----1-----|--4-----3-----|--2--1-----|
13.          14.          15.
  
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(C#9/G#) (C7 FM7 Dm7)

(C7 Am7 Ab7)

EM7Gm7G#m7 Gm11 Gb7b5 FM7 F6

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E--4-----|-----|-----|
B--4-----|----1-1-1--1-1-1--|----1-1-1--1-1-1--|
G--4-3-4--|----3-----3-----|----2-----2-----|
D--2-3-4--|----3-----2-----|----2-----0-----|
A-----|-----|-----|
E--4-3-4--|----3-----2-----|----1-----1-----|
16.          17.          18.
  
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Gm11Gb7b5 C7b9 FM7 Db9

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E-----8--6--8-----|-----5--4-----|
B-----1-1-1-----5--5--5-----|-----5--4-----|
G-----3--3-----6--6--6-----|-----2--4-----|
D-----3--2-----5--5--5-----|-----3-----|
A-----|-----|-----3--4-----|
E-----3--2-----|-----1-----|
19.          20.
  
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A

C69 CM9 Am11 Dm9 Db7#9 C69 CM9Bb9 Bb7Bb7#11Bb9

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E--5--3--0-----|-----|--5--3--0-----|-----0-----|
B--3--3--3--3--|--5--5--|--3--3--3--1--|--3--1-----|
G--2--2--4--0--|--5--4--|--2--2--4--1--|--1--1--1--|
D--2--2--2--2--|--3--3--|--2--2--2--0--|--3--0--0--|
A--3--2--3--0--|--5--4--|--3--3--3--1--|--1--1--1--|
E-----|-----|-----|-----|
21.                22.                23.                24.

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(Dm9 Dm7 Fm6 F#o C6/G)
 Bm7b5 E7b9 FM7 G9 C6 (G11)

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E-----|-----|
B-----5-----3-----1-----|-----1-----|
G-----2-----1-----2-----2-----|-----2-----|
D-----3-----3-----2-----3-----|-----2-----|
A-----2-----2-----|-----3-----|
E-----0-----1-----3-----|-----|
25.                26.

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Tag

(Dm9)
 D9 D13 Db9 Db13 C69

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E-----0-----5--7--4--6--|-----3-----|
B-----1-----5--5--4--4--|-----3-----|
G----1--2-----5--5--4--4--|-----2-----|
D-----4--4--3--3--|-----2-----|
A-----5--5--4--4--|-----3-----|
E-----|-----|
27.                28.

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