

# Got Sax?

A Presentation

... and some memes

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\*No need to take notes, QR code at the end

# Le Menu du jour...

## Apéritif

Who is this guy  
Piazzolla Etude No 3?

Our Goal

## Entrées

Tips for Tone  
Tips for Tongue  
Tips for Technique  
Tips for Tools

## Desserts

Vibrato  
Scales and Patterns  
Questions



What produces the  
sound on a  
saxophone?



# Tips for Tone - Embouchure

🎷 Posture/Position

🎷 Eliminate Pressure on  
the reed

🎷 Mouthpiece Pitch/TONE

🎷 Equipment

🎷 Long Tones  
(but not too long)

# 32800 Tips for Tongue - Articulation



🎷 Tip of the Tongue

🎷 Legato vs Staccato

🎷 Air pressure

🎷 Work it! The tongue is a muscle

🎷 Remove horn



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VAN BELGIE  
BELGISCHE  
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# Tips for Technique – Fingers

- ✓ Fingers curved and close
- ✓ SLOW
- ✓ Follow through
- ✓ Metronome
- ✓ Variety of strategies (next)
- ✓ Plan out fingerings
- ✓ Always use correct dynamics, articulation



# Tips for Technique – Strategies

- 🔥 ALWAYS use metronome, Always
- 🔥 Entire passage, slow to fast (how slow can you go?)
- 🔥 Sequencing smaller sections
- 🔥 Groupings on the move 1234, 2345,3456
- 🔥 “Butter”
- 🔥 Add-a-note (fw, bw)
- 🔥 boomerang
- 🔥 Click then play
- 🔥 Record yourself and listen back

## REMEMBER

- 🎷 Establish a routine, and don’t ignore the “boring stuff” (LT, MP, etc)
- 🎷 Limits: don’t overuse each technique, use them all
- 🎷 Limits: don’t overplay each pattern, rotate them all
- 🎷 No “rage practicing,” take breaks instead or come see me!
- 🎷 The truth about auditions

# Tips for Tools - Equipment

- 🪗 Reed – Cane vs Synthetic
- 🪗 Reed Strength
- 🪗 Lig – what's that thing called again?
- 🪗 Mouthpiece – the holy grail
- 🪗 Horn – does it matter?
- 🪗 Neck Strap – do you like chronic back pain?
- 🪗 Mass – does it matter?
- 🪗 Cleaning and care –



# Vibrato

- 🎷 When to use?
- 🎷 Moving Target
- 🎷 Pitch
- 🎷 Parameters and practice
- 🎷 Yes-yes: using jaw ("wha-wha"/ "wee-wee")
- 🎷 No-no: using breath
- 🎷 No-no: using tongue ("ya-ya")
- 🎷 Dale Underwood/Arno Bornkamp



Congrats, this is the end

RESOURCES



Questions?

Want to reach me later?

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