

97.

West End Blues

Joe “King” Oliver

Scored for 3 mandolins, guitar, bass



West End Blues stands as one of the defining moments in American jazz. Composed by King Oliver in 1928, it was recorded that same year by Louis Armstrong and his Hot Five, a band that notably included Earl Hines on piano. Armstrong's glorious intro is mandatory memorization for any serious student of jazz trumpet. Here, I've split it between the 1st mandolin and the guitar, since it covers such a wide compass. His scat verse, set off by clarinet, is as tender and loving as nonsense syllables could ever be. Hines' solo, somewhat simplified in this arrangement and shared by all three mandolins starting at measure 43, is as perfect as they come. The final chorus features Louis' impossibly long high A (measure 55) and then Hines' beautiful cascade of arpeggios. Altogether, hard to beat.

Mandolin 1

West End Blues

Joe "King" Oliver, 1926

4

6

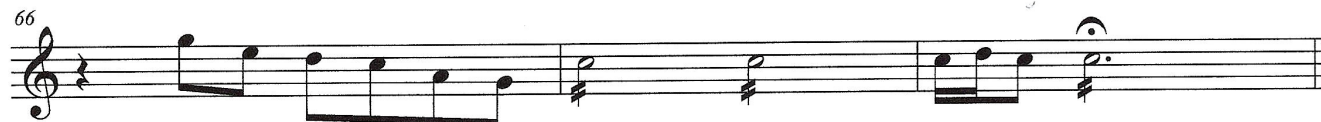
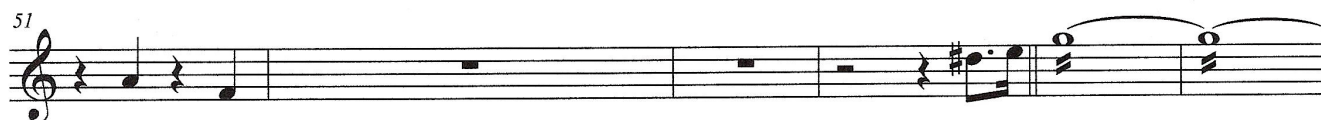
12

16

21

30

36



West End Blues

Joe "King" Oliver, 1926

8

14

21

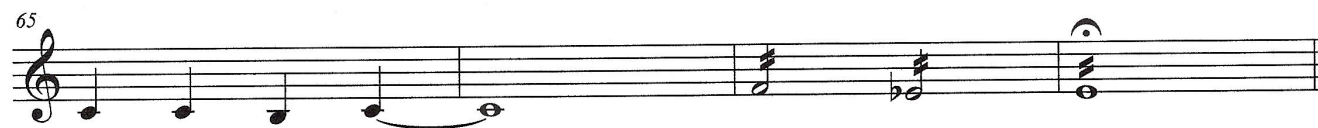
30

36

42

47

West End Blues



Mandolin 3

West End Blues

Joe "King" Oliver, 1926

9

17

23

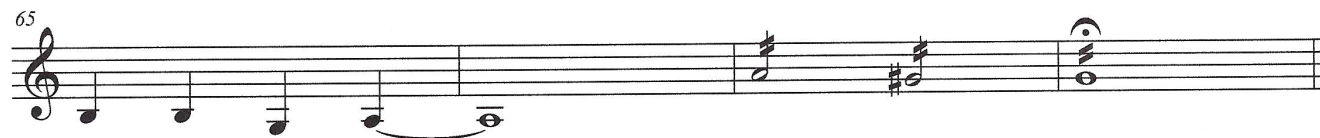
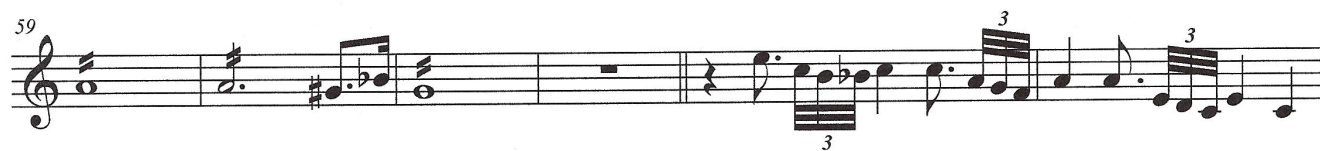
29

35

41

45

West End Blues



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This musical score is for guitar, written in 4/4 time. It consists of a melody line in the treble clef and a harmonic line in the bass clef. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 5, 8, 14, 20, 26, 32, and 37 indicated at the start of their respective lines. The melody line features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and is marked with triplets (3) in several places. The harmonic line provides accompaniment using a variety of chords, including C major, G7, F major, Dm, Cdim, and G aug7. The score concludes with a final measure in measure 40.

West End Blues

42

49

56

62

68

C C C C C C C C C7 C7 C7 C7 F F F F F F F F C C C C

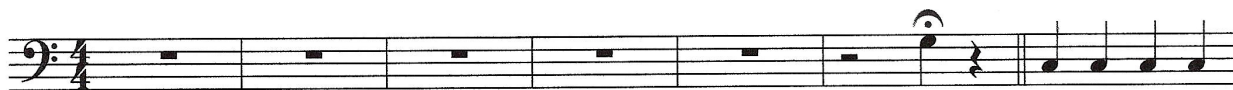
C C C di6 aug7 3 3 F6 G#

ГМТ РЗ

Acoustic Bass

West End Blues

Joe "King" Oliver, 1926



51



57



63

