

**SJU Courses - Siena Jazz University**  
**2nd Year Study Programme**  
**Course: Jazz Double Bass**  
**Discipline: Instrumental Improvisation**  
**Teacher: Ferruccio Spinetti**

*Instrumental technique:*

- In order to perfect the technique necessary to extemporize on a theme or to improvise a solo, studies will continue to be drawn from the pertinent classical repertory. In particular, study will focus upon several of the **Suites for Solo Cello by J.S. Bach**, both bowed and pizzicato, and the first movement (Largo) from the **Sonata in g minor for Double Bass and Piano by H. Eccles**.

Study will furthermore be devoted to bass lines and exercises from “**Concepts for Bass Soloing**” by **Chuck Sher and Marc Johnson**.

*Extemporization:*

- Further development of extemporaneous reading skills through harmonic, melodic, and rhythmic analysis and memorization of pieces from the traditional repertory (“**Creating Jazz Bass Lines**” by **Jim Stinnett**).
- Development of the interpretation ability of jazz pronunciation during the reading of a melody and construction of new themes of harmonies from famous standards. Creation of new melodies (“**Walking in the Footsteps of... Paul Chambers**,” transcribed by **Rob Gourlay**).

*Improvisation:*

- In-depth exploration of improvisation using examples provided in the book “**Bass Hanon Variations**” and “**Concepts for Bass Soloing**” by **Chuck Sher and Marc Johnson**. Continuing study of the method “**The Evolving Bassist**” by **Rufus Reid**.
- Analysis of rhythmic and melodic cells of the theme, and development within the chord chart using the 15 pieces of the repertory.
- Creation of an “intro” for solo double bass. Variations on tonal centres both in major and in minor keys.

*Accompaniment:*

- Rhythmic and harmonic study to accompany a theme and a soloist, using both transcriptions made by the student and pieces taken from “**Volume 6: Charlie Parker**” by **J. Aebersold**, “**Volume 56: Thelonious Monk**” by **J. Aebersold**, and “**Volume 35: Cedar Walton**” by **J. Aebersold (bass line by Ron Carter)**.

*Transcriptions:*

- Study and performance of several transcriptions taken from recordings of pioneers in the main musical styles of jazz (**Charlie Haden, Marc Johnson, Scott LaFaro**, “**Walking in the Footsteps of... Paul Chambers**”). Live recordings of the student made during the course of planned exercises will also be transcribed and examined.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**Suites for Solo Cello by J.S. Bach**

**H. Eccles, Sonata in g minor for Double Bass and Piano**

**Billè - II corso pratico**

**Billè - III corso pratico**

**“Concepts for Bass Soloing” by Chuck Sher and Marc Johnson.**

**“Creating Jazz Bass Lines” by Jim Stinnett**

**“Walking in the footsteps of ... Paul Chambers” transcribed by Rob Gourlay**

**Bass Hanon Variations**

**“The Evolving Bassist, Vol. 1” by Rufus Reid**

**“Volume 6: Charlie Parker” by J. Aebersold**

**“Volume 35: Cedar Walton” by J. Aebersold**

**“Volume 56: Thelonious Monk” by J. Aebersold**