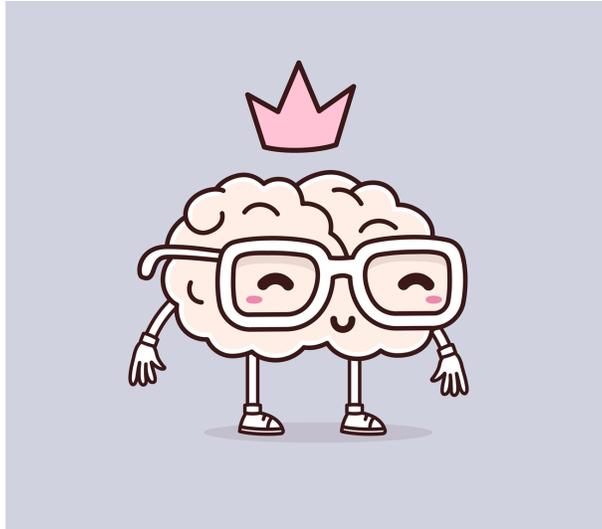


# Practicing Displacement and Direction with Bill Evans... and with both brains



## The **ABABC** approach.



Combining **refinement** and **opening up** through systematic manipulation and open improvising.

### Objectives:

- Deep memory - **embed approach** through **repetition**, in **context**.
- **Combine** specific strategies with improvisational process from **both brains**.
- **Integrate** outside improvising within our **existing** improvisational approach.
- Adapt, **manipulate** and personalise outside techniques, progressing from **literal** to **nuanced** and **personal** use.
- **Smart practice**, combining left, right brain and whole brain.

## Practice Strategy

### Prerequisites

1. In this strategy, it is helpful to memorise Bill Evans' solo on "[You Must Believe in Spring](#)", or in this case, the last 8 bars.
2. Select appropriate context for practice, either *simple* i.e. one chord, extended II V; alternatively last 8 bars of "You Must Believe in Spring", last 8 bars of "Stella", "Autumn Leaves", "All The Things You Are", or similar.

### Action

Utilise last 8 from Bill's solo on "You Must Believe in Spring" solo. This models **displacement, voice-leading, contour, chord-quality.**

- **A** (right brain) general, idea, influenced by repeated listening to Bill. Start with general idea of descending phrases. If possible add some intuitive displacement. **5-10 mins.**
- **B1** (left brain) targeted practice: descending phrases with Bill's exact rhythm; set-up with rhythm applied to single note, arpeggio, then phrases. **5-10 mins.**
- **B2** When B1 is comfortable, add another strategy, i.e. descending phrases combined with ascending starting notes (as in the lick). **5-10 mins.**
- **A** (right brain) again. **5-10 mins.**
- **B1 & B2** (left brain) again. **5-10 mins each**
- **C** (whole brain/open awareness/heart) - improvise in context, influenced by the previous work, but with **intuitive permission** to do as much or as little as you like. Sense instead of think. Be as literal, nuanced or curious as you like. Most important, be expressive. **5-10 mins.**

**Practice like this for several days until the processes become familiar.**

How can we make things easier  
for our 🧠 left brain?

*Practice slowly, simplify context  
and reduce practice targets/devices*

How can we make things easier  
for our right 🧠 brain?

*Listen to source/context/lick again,  
attune ears as much as possible*

How can we make things easier  
for our expressive ❤️ brain (heart)?

*Let go, trust  
(but keep one ear on the sensation/echo/vibe  
of the previous exercises)*

Remember that when you transcribe and work with vocabulary, it is a **\*reflection\* of you**, what you are attracted to and therefore already part of you (as embryonic expressive potential) before you begin to work on its realisation...

