

## It Could Happen To You

♩ = 64

Dmi7 G7(alt) CMa7 Em7(♭5) A7(♭9)

(solo break)

Dmi7 F♯m7(♭5) B7 C7 FMa7

E7 Em7(♭5) A7(♭9) Dmi7 Fmi(Ma7)

CMa7 Bm7(♭5) E7(♭9) Ami7 D7

Doo-dle doo-dle Doo

Dmi7 G7 CMa7

To Melody

J. J.'s solo on the Johnny Burke/Jimmy Van Heusen standard, "It Could Happen To You," displays a common bebop predilection -- very slow ballad tempos that results in the use of double-time licks. J. J. recorded this tune as a leader in 1953. His solo displays complete control of improvisational materials. As with many early bebop recordings, J. J. is limited to half a chorus (16 measures) plus an additional pick-up measure as his solo break. His use of syncopation, articulations, turns, and the slow doo-dle tongue articulation combine to increase the expressive nature of the improvised melodic material. The resulting lyrical product is an excellent example of J. J.'s ability to create unity and cohesion in an improvisational setting. (Remember to listen to the solos several times before trying to play them. Since jazz is an aural tradition, you should purchase the albums or compact discs as a precursor to the study of these or any other transcribed solos.)

If you find these solos interesting then you should also take a look at other J. J. Johnson solo transcriptions. Currently, two collections are available:

Baker, David. *David Baker Jazz Monograph Series - J. J. Johnson*. New York: Shattinger International Music Corp., 1979.  
Leisenring, John, and Butler, Hunt. *J. J. Johnson Transcribed Solos*. New Albany, In.: Jamey Aebersold Publications, 1989.

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