A note to all the Pepper Adams fans out there...

These transcriptions were done a little over a decade ago out of my love, respect and admiration for Pepper Adams. His musicality, harmonic concept, sense of swing, intensity and humor are truly a notch above everyone else, which is why he is so special. I have specifically left out any and all articulations. Even though one could attempt to physically write something onto the manuscript paper, I feel the music requires us to learn it as it should be learned...by absorption and assimilation through listening. To truly understand how Pepper’s notes and phrases are played requires dedicated listening. Pepper’s improvisational voice was so unique and strong. I suggest taking the time to listen to each solo first; then listen again and follow along on the transcription making any notes you may wish. Only after these steps are done should you pick up your horn... Beyond this, the chord changes shown are a reflection of what I perceived Pepper to be thinking and playing...I’ve attempted to stay as close to the standard changes found on these tunes whenever possible. It should be stated that Pepper had a fondness for the Diminished and the Tritone substitution in addition to the concept of ascending in minor 3rds over a Minor or Dominant chord or even over a two - five passage.

Transcribing is a personal venture. These are my interpretations of what I’ve heard. Should you disagree with the way with which I’ve notated something, that is completely acceptable, however, please change it in your own score. If by chance you’ve found a glaring mistake, please just let me know and it will be fixed. Thank you and ENJOY unlocking PEPPER ADAMS!

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Battery Blues

Philly Joe Jones - Showcase

Nov. & Dec. 1959

Trans. by Adam Schroeder

\[ \text{Tempo} = 165 \]