Pro Session

Pepper Adams' Solo on Pent Up House—A Baritone Saxophone Transcription

BY TRENT KYNASTON

Trent Kynaston is the author of several texts published by Studio P/R, including Circular Breathing, Daily Studies For Saxophone, and Phil Woods Sola Transcriptions. He is also the co-author of Jazz Impravisation, published by Prentice-Hall. Kynaston teaches Jazz Studies in the School of Music at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo.

Pepper Adams' solo on Pent Up House is transcribed from Urban Dreams (Palo Alto Jazz 8009), recorded September 30, 1981. In light of his recent passing, perhaps we should take a close look at—and listen hard to—what made him such a stellar saxophonist.

Only six of Pepper's 12 choruses on the Sonny Rollins tune are included here, but these are more than enough to study his straightahead bop style and his clean, solid, often witty playing. The solo is so full of quotes, near-quotes, and juxtaposition of familiar melodies that it commands the listener's attention throughout, beginning with a touch of *Poinciana* and ending (in the 12th chorus) with *Cute*; *Volari* and a host of others pop up in the middle.





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