

Days Of Wine & Roses - Session 1 (Concert)

These sessions focus on the opening four bars of the song, with detailed look at the harmony and chord-scale relationships.

Below is the melody and chord symbols.

F^Δ Eb⁷#11 A- D⁷#9

The four lines below show the chords and their corresponding modes, along with the parent scale of each mode. These modes are not the only options for these chords, but they are a good starting point for outlining the harmony clearly in your improvisation.

6 F^Δ Mode: F Ionian - Parent Scale: F Major

7 Eb⁷#11 Mode: Eb Lydian Dominant - Parent Scale: Bb Melodic Minor

8 A- Mode: A Phrygian - Parent Scale: F Major

9 D⁷b9b13 Mode: D Mixolydian Flat 9 Flat 13 - Parent Scale: G Harmonic Minor

Practice ideas:

It's interesting to notice that while the harmony moves quickly, and quite dramatically in these four bars, the melody is entirely diatonic.

Try improvising through the sequence looking for common notes between scales/chords where ever possible - emphasizing the common tones and creating a sense of continuity between the contrasting chords.

In direct contrast to the task above, try the opposite, emphasizing only the notes which change between each chord. This should have a noticeably different effect on your line, with a greater sense of tension and release.

Finally, looping the four bars, try switching between the two approaches described above - testing your ability to control the level of tension in your improvisation.