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Creating an improviser's system for jazz standards on the classical guitar

Kjell Goyer

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Creating an Improviser's System for Jazz

Standards on the Classical Guitar

A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree

MASTER OF CREATIVE ARTS RESEARCH

From

The University of Wollongong

By

Kjell Goyer

FACULTY OF CREATIVE ARTS

2010

Thesis Confirmation

Certification

I, Kjell Goyer, declare that this thesis, submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of Master of Creative Arts Research, in the department of Creative Arts, University of Wollongong, is wholly my own work unless otherwise referenced or acknowledged. The document has not been submitted for qualification at any other academic institution.

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THESIS ABSTRACT

A case can be made for a departure from influence and dominance of American jazz musicians in improvisation on the classical guitar. To support this I will discuss and develop studies for improvisation patterns derived from the music of Leo Brouwer. The improvisations will be discussed in terms of their technical application to the guitar and analysed in terms of melodic, rhythmic, textural and harmonic structures and how they are integrated into the whole piece.

It is expected that these studies will create a viable system of improvisation for the development of the classical guitarist aspiring to improvisation in performance of jazz standards.