

Jack Teagarden

Jack Teagarden was born in 1905, in a tough south western town, Vernon, Texas. Growing up in a black neighbourhood he was familiar with black gospel, work songs and the blues, having heard them from an early age.

He was likely to be the first white musician to master the blues and probably to make use of blue notes. He tended to play in the upper register with a dark tone and had great fluency to his playing due to his technical ability and mastery of lip control. Lip trills were a feature of his soloing.

This was a solo from an early era when musicians tended to elaborate more on the melody than using improvised lines and licks.

Autumn Leaves is a popular song and jazz standard. It was composed by a Hungarian, *Joseph Kosma*, in 1945 when he lived in Paris. The original title was *Les Feuilles Mortes* (The Dead Leaves).

The structure is in AABA form and offers the budding improviser a way to learn jazz harmony as the chord progressions comprise mainly *ii V I* and *ii V* sequences which are typical of jazz. This recording is in the key of C minor, although the tuning sounds flat.

Verdi's A, 432Hz, was the music tuning standard prior to today's tuning of 440Hz. 432Hz is widely considered a superior tuning that makes music more pleasant to listen to and has a positive influence on the human mind and body. 432Hz also has interesting relationships with our planet and history.



Autumn Leaves

solo by Jack Teagarden

Transcribed by Dougsta

Ballad $\text{♩} = 60$

vib.

4

8

12

16

25

27

30

