

Some Prerequisites for the Successful Jazz Musician Dizzy Gillespie

1. Mastery of the Instrument:

Important because when you think of something to play, you must say it quickly, because you don't have time to figure how - chords changing so quickly.

2. Style:

Which I think is the most difficult to master, in as much as there are not too many truly distinctive styles in all of Jazz.

3. Taste:

Is a process of elimination. Some phrases that you play may be technically correct but don't portray the particular mood that you are trying for.

4. Communication:

After all, you make your profession Jazz because first, you love it, and secondly as a means of livelihood. So if there is no direct communication with the audience for whom you are playing - there goes your living.

5. Chord Progressions:

There are rules that govern you biologically and physically. There are rules that govern your taste musically. Therefore it is of prime interest and to one's advantage to learn the keyboard of the piano, as it is the basic instrument for Western music, which Jazz is an integral part of.

6. Rhythm:

Which includes all of the other attributes because, you may have all of these others and don't have the rhythmic sense to put them together, then it would negate all of your other accomplishments.