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TYRONE WHEELER

Tyrone is a highly-respected, first-call jazz bassist in the Louisville, Cincinnati and Indianapolis regions. During his relatively young career he has performed with such jazz notables as James Moody, Bobby Shew, Ira Sullivan, J.J. Johnson, Jimmy Raney, Jim Hall, David Liebman, Slide Hampton, Eddie Harris and many others. He was a performer at the Nancy Jazz Festival in Nancy, France and has been a pit musician in *Camelot, South Pacific, Ain't Misbehavin'* and many other broadway productions.

Tyrone's trademark is a great swing feel, coupled with excellent note choice and a big sound. As a working musician he has played all styles of music but excels in the jazz idiom.

Tyrone toured with Buddy Rich '86 for a period. He attended the University of Louisville School of Music, Jamey Aebersold Jazz Workshops and studied with, among others, Rufus Reid through a National Endowment for the Arts grant in 1982.

He is presently on the teaching staff at the University of Cincinnati as the Jazz Bass teacher. He also teaches at the University of Louisville and the Jamey Aebersold Summer Jazz Workshops.

Please Note: In this book, whenever a rhythmic embellishment occurs (see examples below), you could make the first note of each beat a quarter note and your line will sound fine. As you gain more facility, you can begin adding the other (extra) notes to make the 8th note or triplet figures.

Listening to Tyrone on the recording is extremely valuable to understand how his notes and feel contribute to the overall sound of this rhythm section.

Examples:

Ghost skips or pulloffs are produced by pulling the open string with the left hand's first or middle finger.

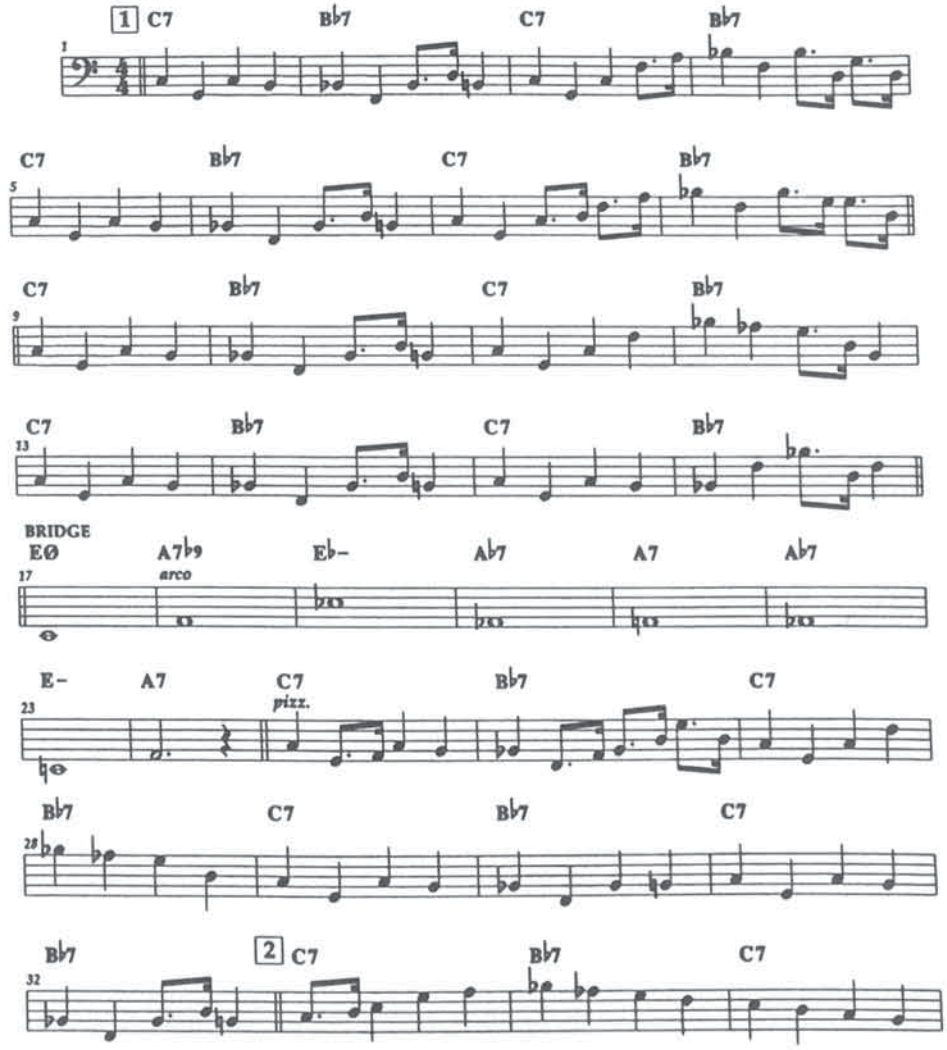
There are quite a few 16th note "pick-ups" in these bass lines. The majority of these 16th notes are open strings (E, A, D, G), because the open string is easier to play rapidly and smoothly, which gives a smooth, swinging rhythmic feel. However, E, A, D, and G are not always in the chord symbol being played. The student should not worry about this. These 16th notes happen so fast that you can't tell what pitch they are. They serve a rhythmic function, not a melodic function.

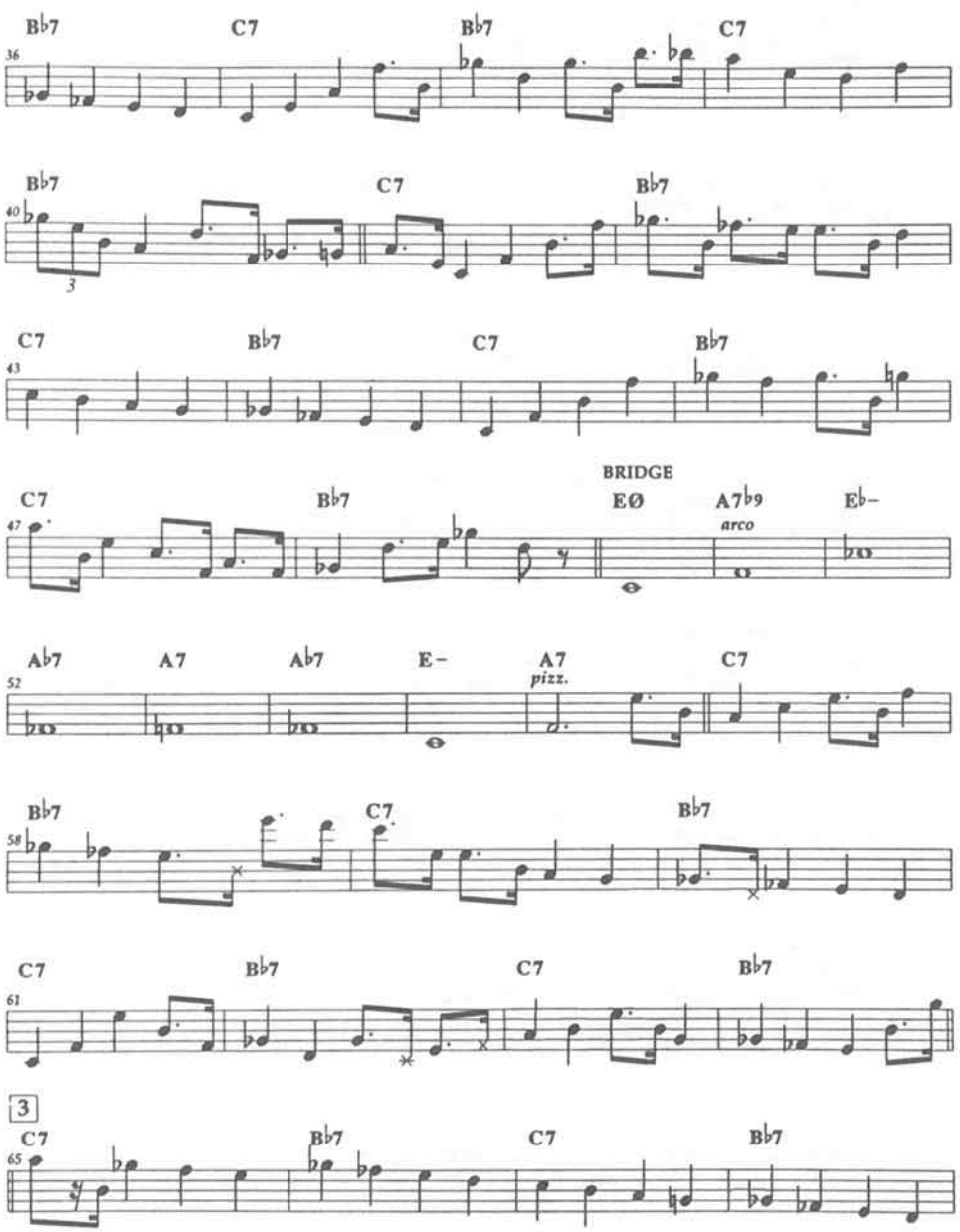
Also, some of these 16th notes are notated with an "x" instead of a conventional notehead. These notes are played extremely quickly and quietly, like a true ghost note.

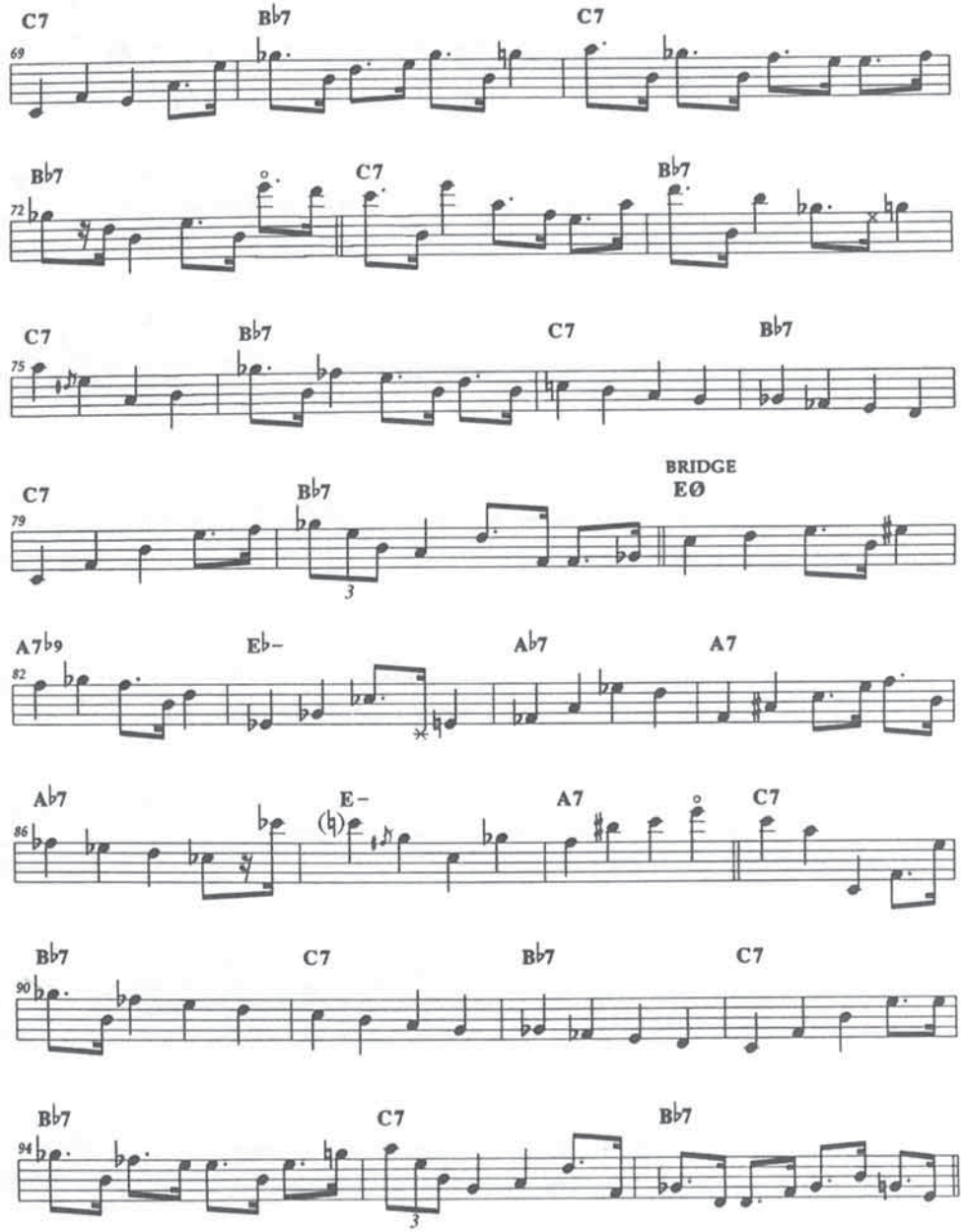
Bass Lines As Played By Tyrone Wheeler On The Chord Progression To:

1. Killer Joe

PLAY 5 TIMES (♩ = 104)




Bb7 C7 Bb7 C7
36
Bb7 C7 Bb7
40
3
C7 Bb7 C7 Bb7
43
BRIDGE
C7 Bb7 EØ A7b9 Eb–
47
arco
Ab7 A7 Ab7 E– A7 C7
52
pizz.
Bb7 C7 Bb7
58
C7 Bb7 C7 Bb7
61
3
C7 Bb7 C7 Bb7
65


C7 Bb7 C7
69
Bb7 C7 Bb7
72
C7 Bb7 C7 Bb7
75
BRIDGE
C7 Bb7 EØ
79
3
A7b9 Eb– Ab7 A7
82
Ab7 E– A7 C7
86
(b)
Bb7 C7 Bb7 C7
90
Bb7 C7 Bb7
94
3