Improvsing Within The Blues

Session 1

Scales Used In The Blues

C Minor Pentatonic Scale

C Blues Scale

- A) Practice the scales as an individual task being aware of any fingering, Picking or bowing adjustments you might want to make. Drummers should practice Rudiments used within the blues on the sheet provided.
- B) Lets now play through both of the scales together listening to the sounds the notes make over the C Minor Chord.

In the next task I want you to listen to the notes and see how it make the chords sound, does it, do nothing, sound resolved, add tension, need to reslove, Clash, happy or sad??????

C) What sound Does the;

Root/1st note make?

b3rd Note Make?

4th Note Make?

b5th Note Make?

5th Note Make?

b7th Note Make?

Now that we know which notes cause tension and release lets try improvising with them.

Improvising task

- 2) Lets try improvising with 2 notes per bar
- B) Clockwise around the room lets each take a turn individually improvising for at least 12 bars. Example 1



- C) Now let try improvising with 3 notes per bar.
- D) Now try 4 notes per bar.

As an extended task lets try;

Improvising with another person.

3) Try the above exercise improvising with another person using 2,3 or 4 note per bar.

By the end of the session you will be able to identify;

- 1. Instruments used in the blues
- 2. Ornaments used.
- 3. Two scales used in the blues.
- 4. Which chord tones cause tension and release (for drummers what ruiments are used in the blues).
- 5. Ways inwhich you can improvise with the given scales.

Please turn the page for extended task's, fill in space for your practice diary, listening and further study.