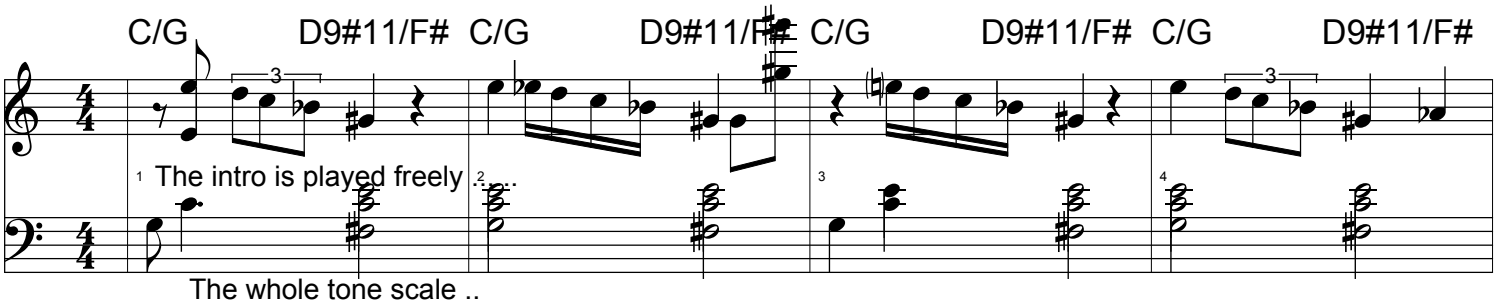
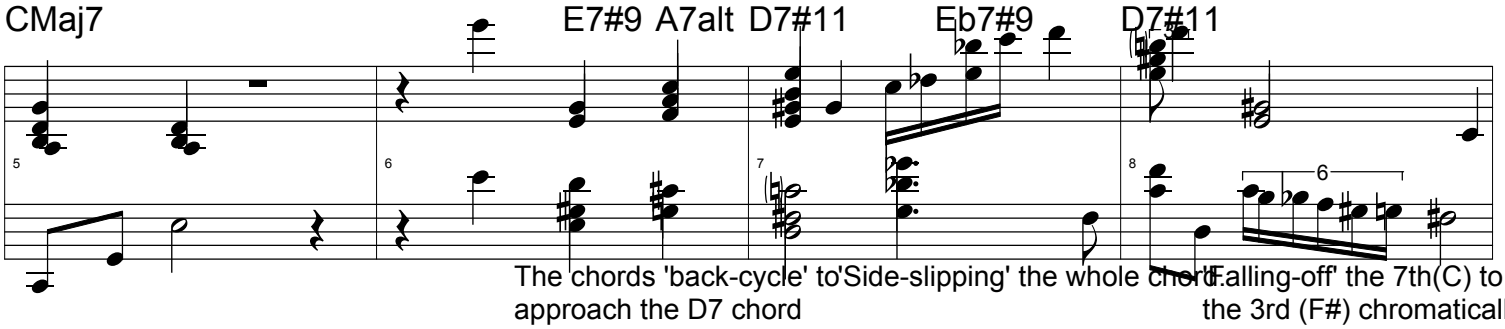
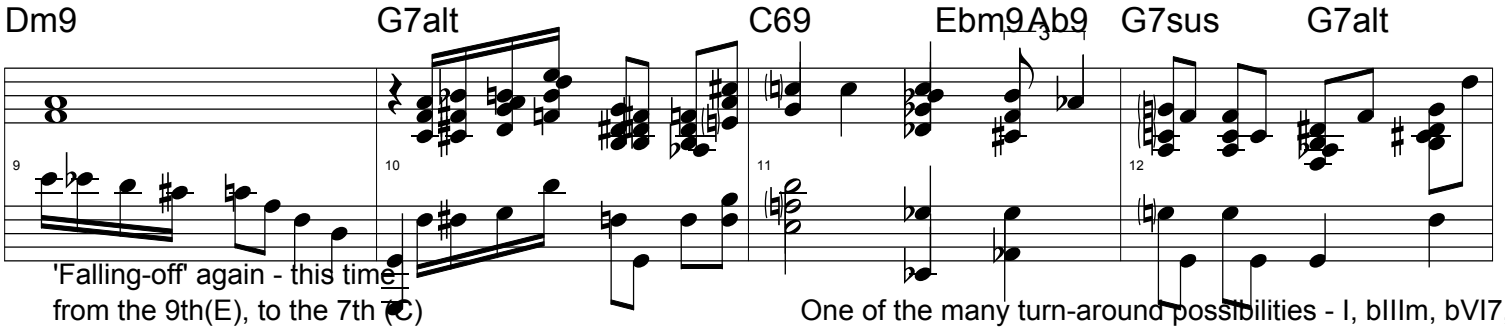
'Take The A Train'

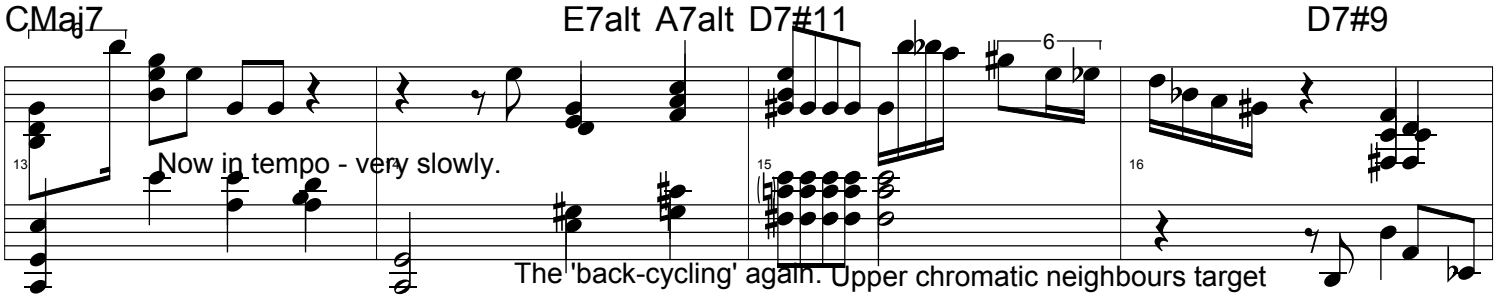
Improvised solo by Doug McKenzie

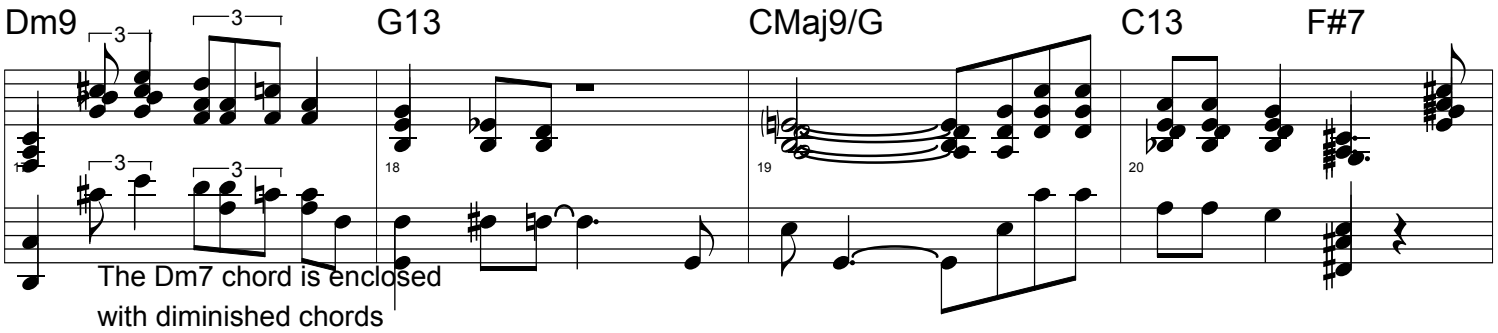
Ellington

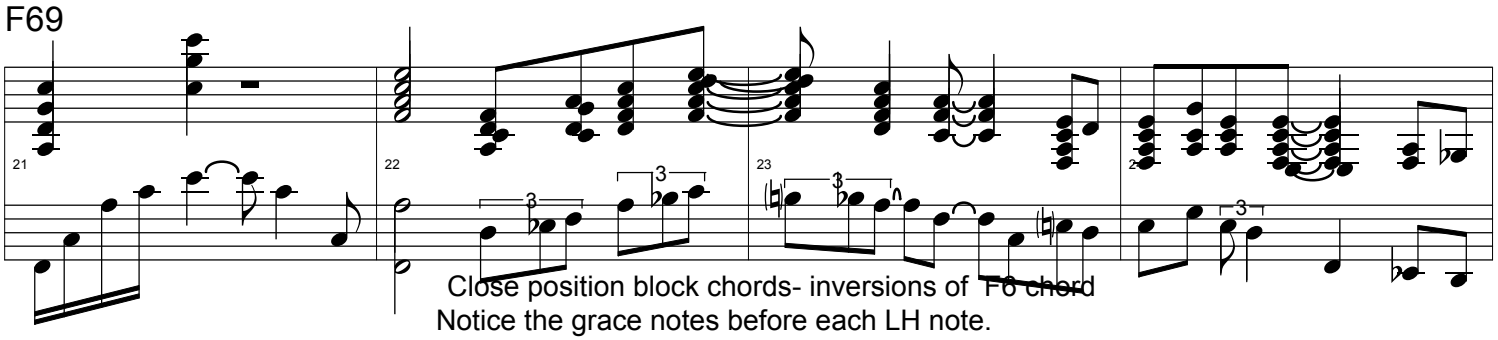


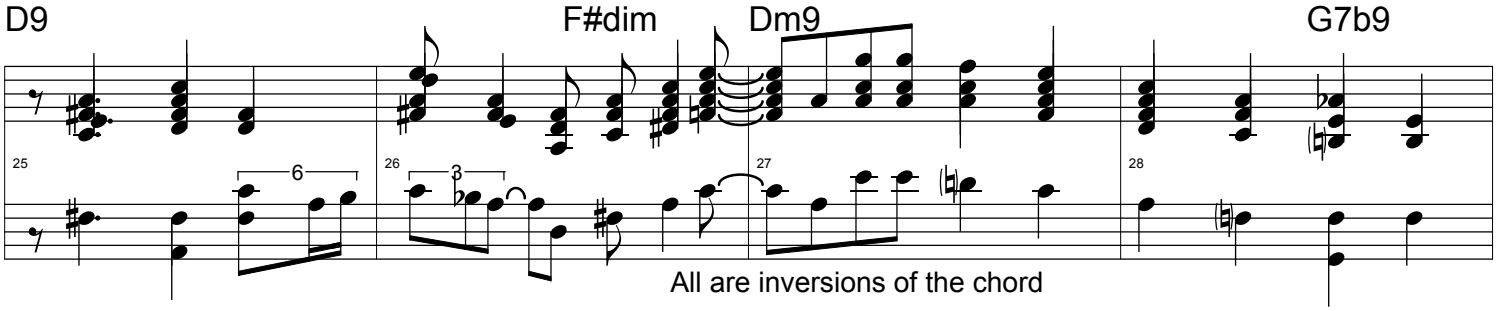


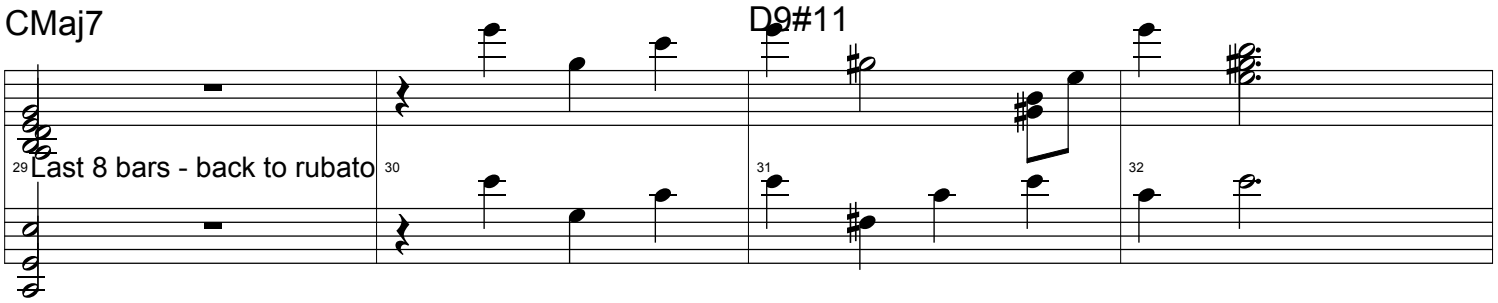


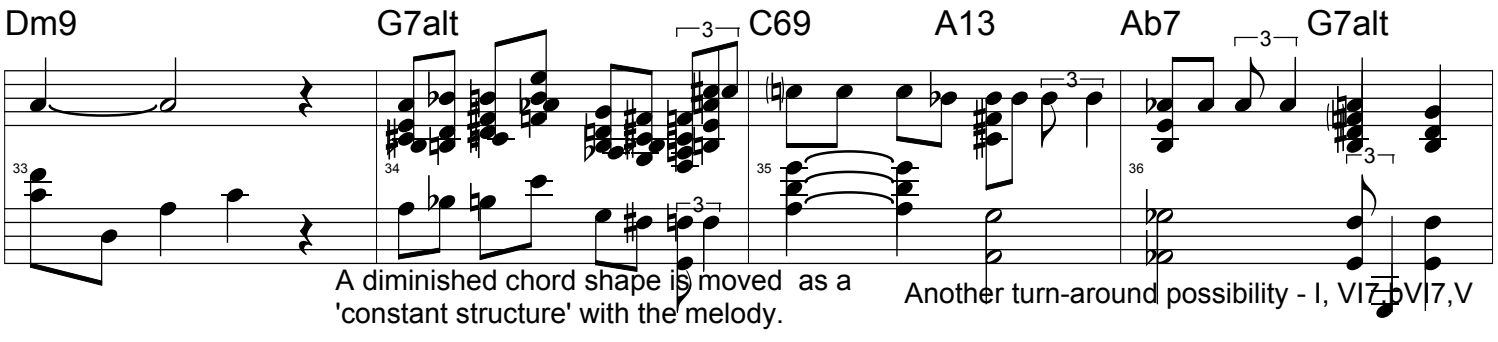


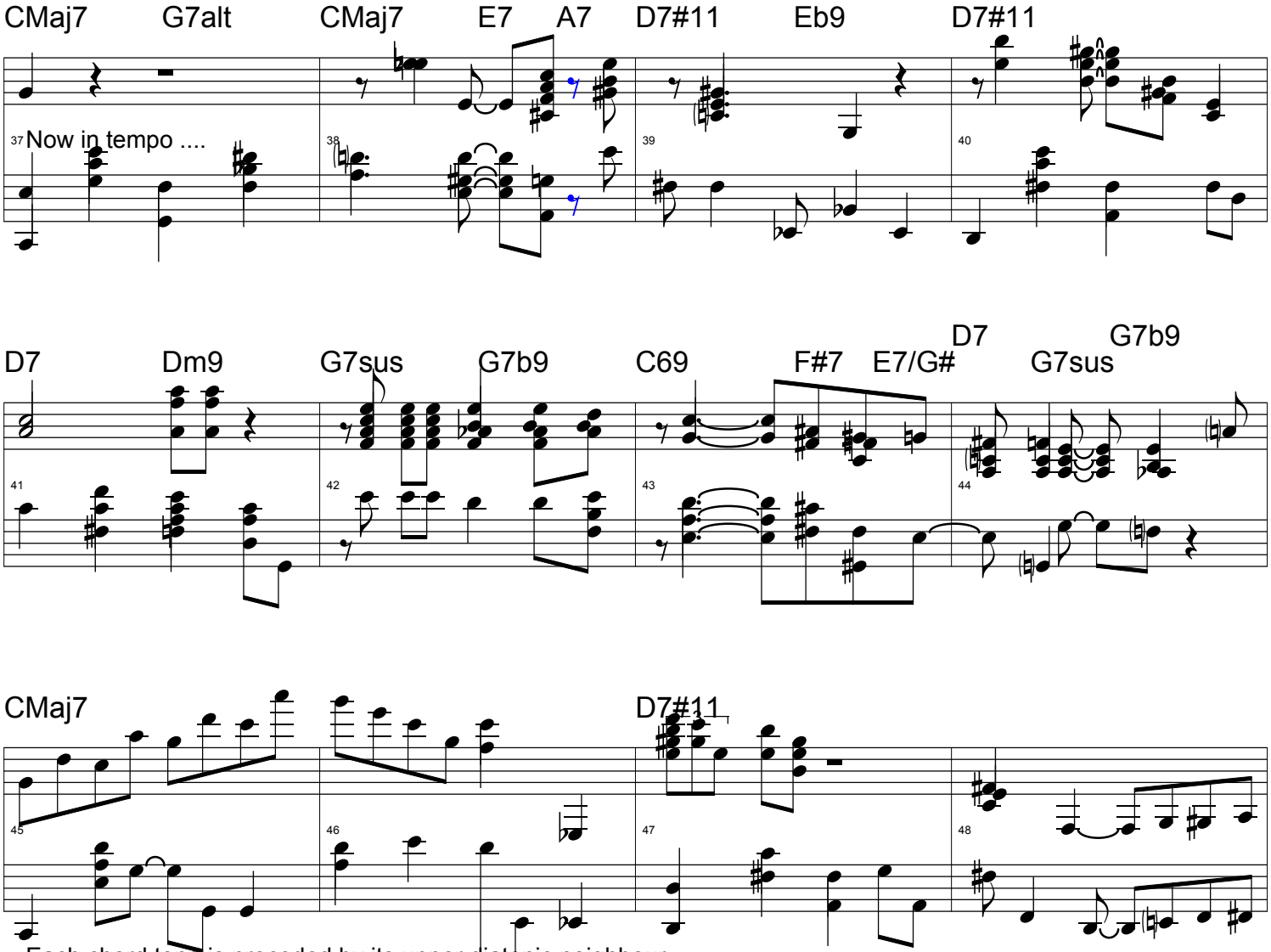

Dm9
G13
CMaj9/G
C13
F#7
The Dm7 chord is enclosed
with diminished chords


F69
Close position block chords- inversions of F6 chord
Notice the grace notes before each LH note.

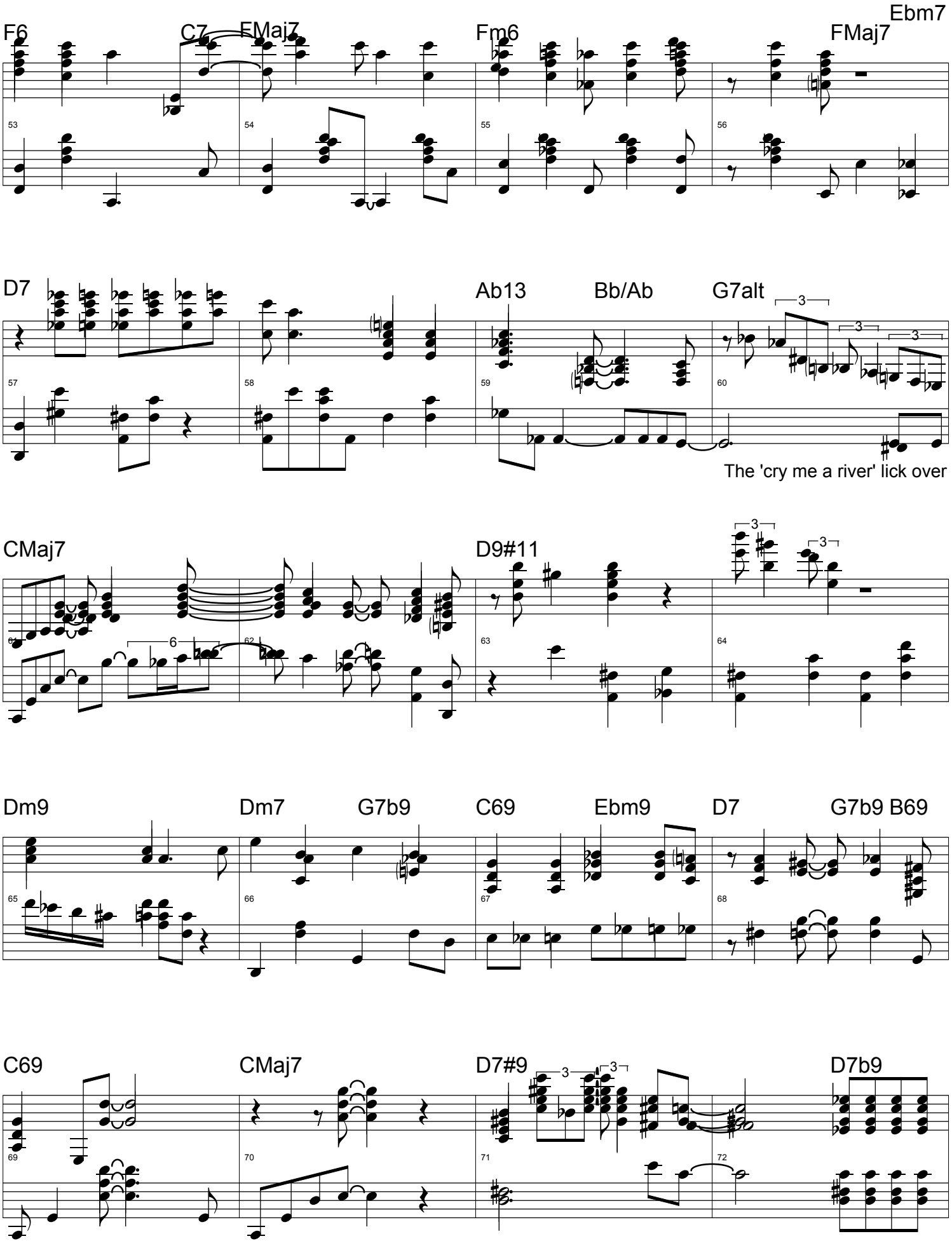

D9
F#dim
Dm9
G7b9
All are inversions of the chord

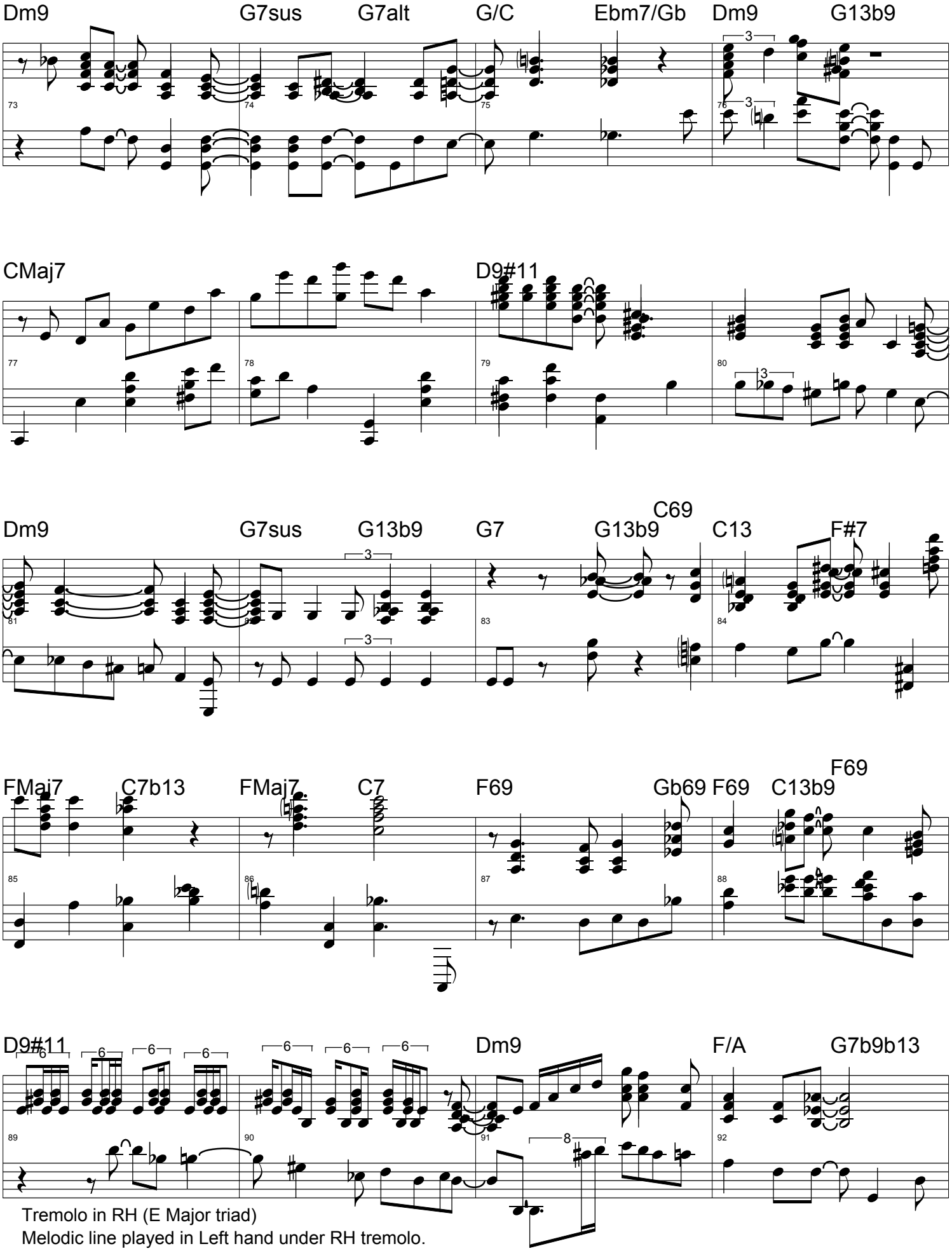

CMaj7
D9#11
Last 8 bars - back to rubato

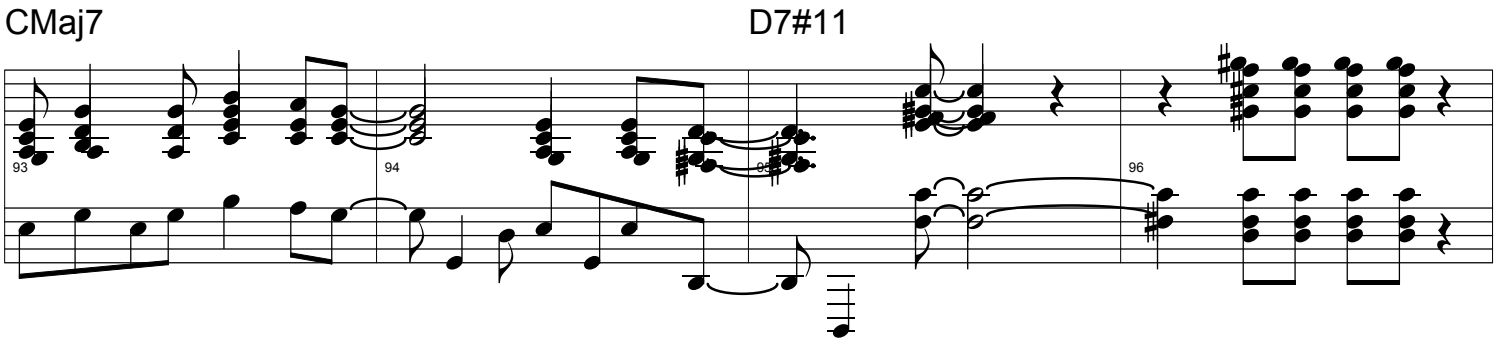

Dm9
G7alt
C69
A13
Ab7
G7alt
A diminished chord shape is moved as a
'constant structure' with the melody.
Another turn-around possibility - I, VI7, bVI7,V

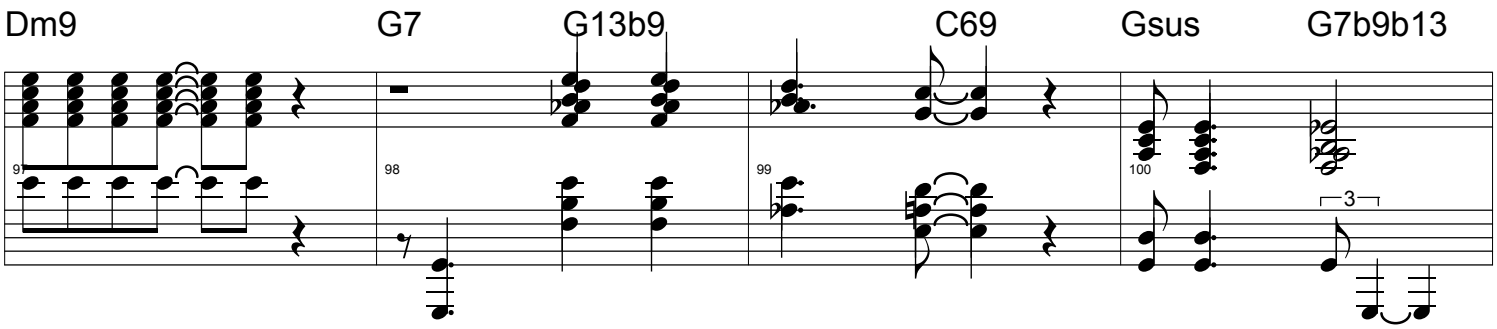


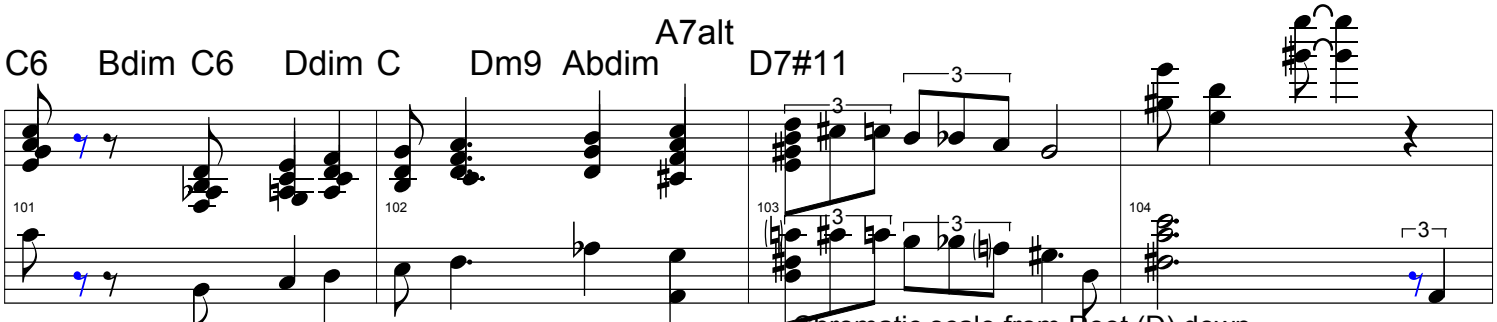
Over the modulation to F Major on the bridge, instead of a straight C dominant chord,I have taken a 7b9 shape and moved it up in minor thirds. Notice again the chromatic grace notes before each LH note.


F6
C7
FMaj7
Fm6
Ebm7
FMaj7
53
54
55
56
D7
Ab13
Bb/Ab
G7alt
3
3
3
57
58
59
60
The 'cry me a river' lick over an a
CMaj7
D9#11
3
3
6
61
62
63
64
Dm9
Dm7
G7b9
C69
Ebm9
D7
G7b9 B69
65
66
67
68
C69
CMaj7
D7#9
3
3
D7b9
69
70
71
72


Dm9
G7sus
G7alt
G/C
Ebm7/Gb
Dm9
G13b9
CMaj7
D9#11
Dm9
G7sus
G13b9
G7
C69
G13b9
C13
F#7
FMaj7
C7b13
FMaj7
C7
F69
Gb69
F69
F69
C13b9
D9#11
Dm9
F/A
G7b9b13
Tremolo in RH (E Major triad)
Melodic line played in Left hand under RH tremolo.

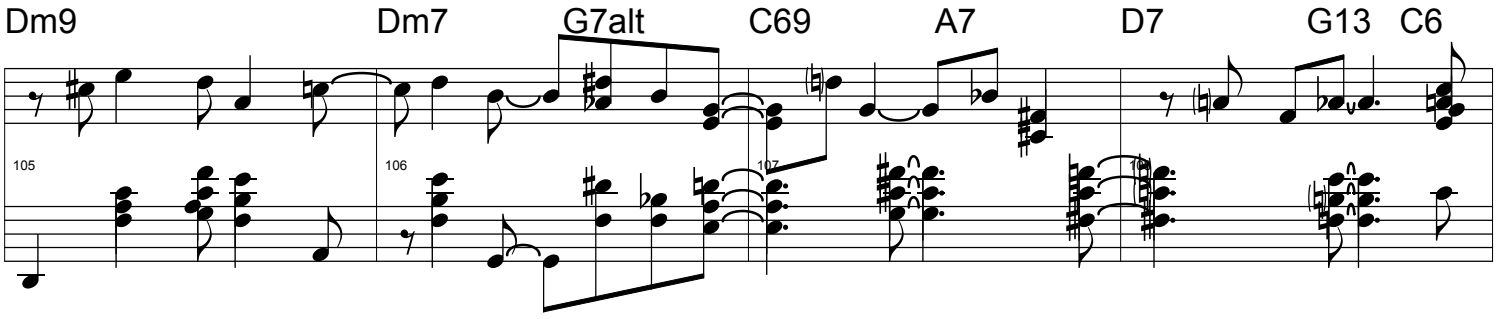


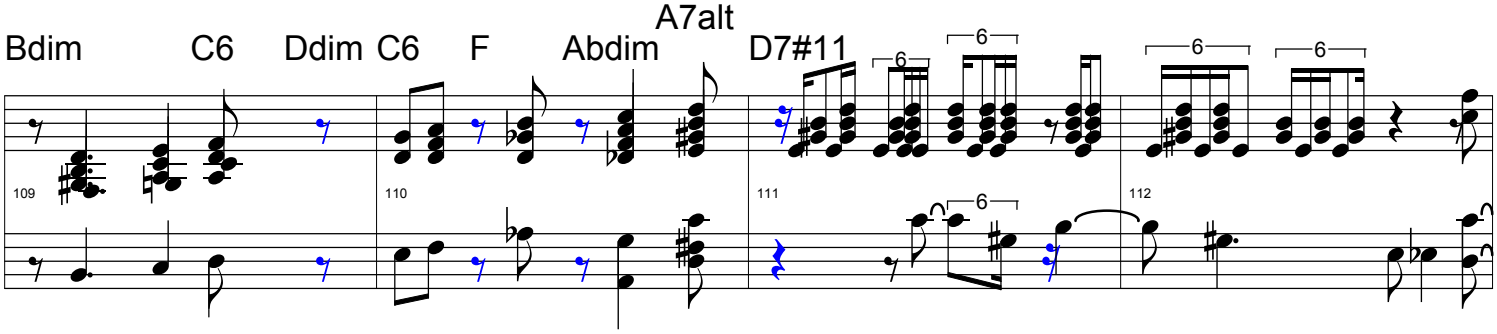


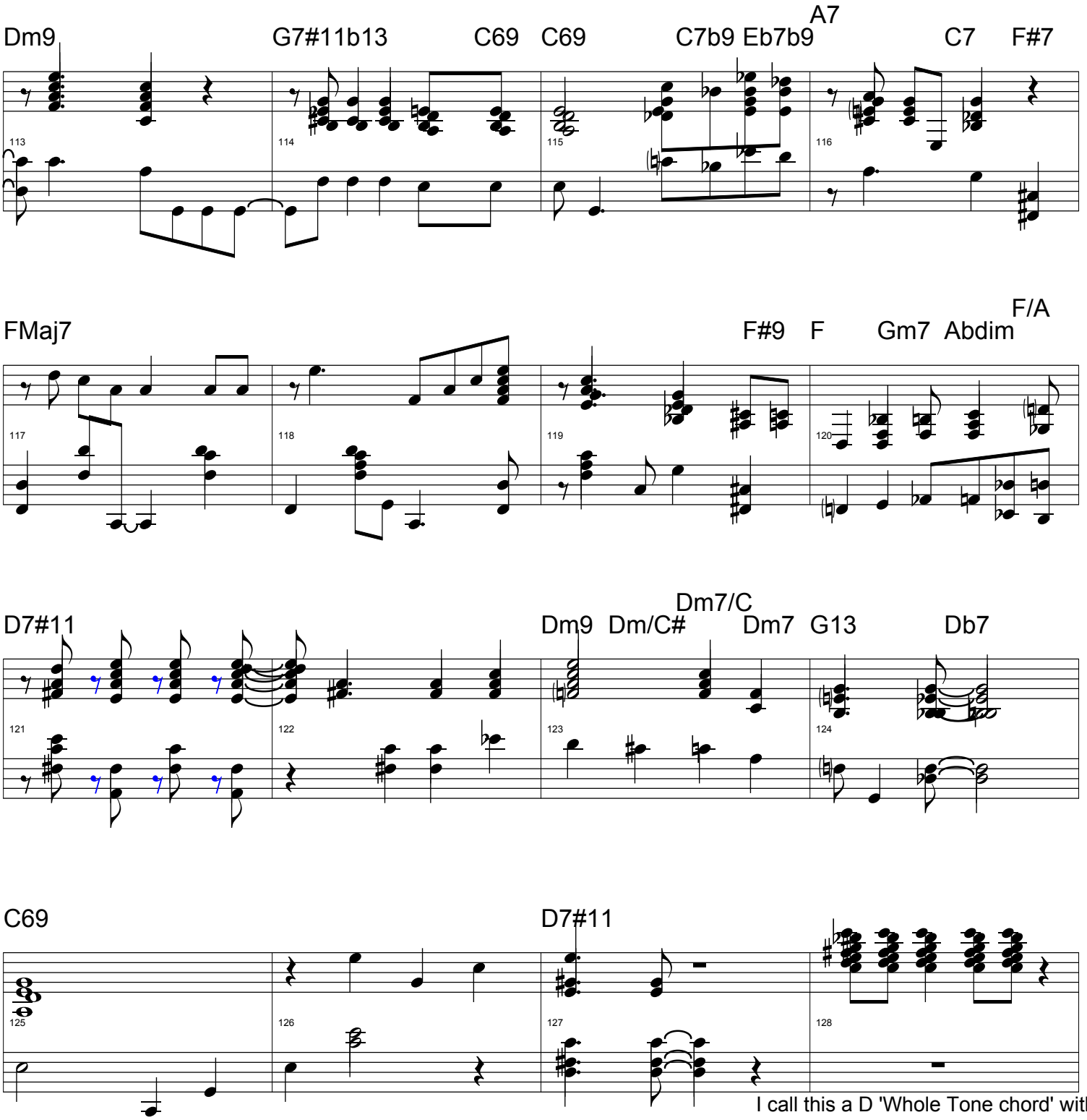


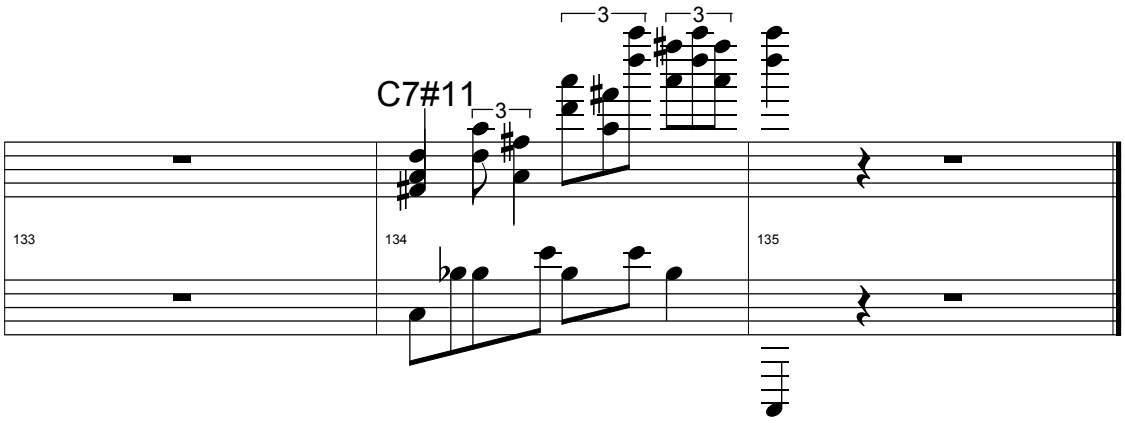
The classic 4 bar big band figure - in 4 part drop 2 harmony
Up the C major scale - dim chords on non-chord tones

Chromatic scale from Root (D) down
to the tritone (G#)






Dm9
G7#11b13
C69
C69
C7b9
Eb7b9
A7
C7
F#7
FMaj7
F#9
F
Gm7
Abdim
F/A
D7#11
Dm9
Dm/C#
Dm7
Dm7/C
G13
Db7
C69
D7#11
I call this a D 'Whole Tone chord' with
every note of the scale (LH - C,D,E and
Dm7
Dm7
G7
C69
Ab7
DbMaj7
The classic ending - with a twist!
Slips up a semitone to Db!


C7#11
3
3
3
133
134
135